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Girls' fans: Lots to holler about 17

Issue No. 28

32 pages

MARCH 13, 2003

75 CENTS

Fleet feat

Girls set for Saturday night special

The magical mystery tour continued for the Andover High girls basketball team, which displayed nerves of steel in a come-from-behind 52-44 win over Newton North Tuesday night in the Eastern Mass. Division 1 title game at the FleetCenter.

The Lady Warriors shoot for a first-ever state title Saturday night at 5:45 in the Worcester Centrum.

Story in sports, page 17.

In Thursday's Eagle-Tribune: Special full-color keepsake page



PHOTO BY CARL RUSSO

Thrill of victory - Following Tuesday night's dramatic victory, teammates including Matia Kostakis (12) and Jackie Powers (second from right) embraced on the parquet of the FleetCenter. Andover won 52-44 and will play at the Worcester Centrum on Saturday for the state championship.

No sale: \$400,000 furlough

Town side would be \$55,000

By Andrea Gregory

A two-day townwide furlough, an idea that would save more than \$400,000, is considered a dead issue by town and school officials.

It appears the furlough - shutting down the non-essential town departments and the school department for two days when kids are not in school - would have saved \$364,000 for the school department and \$55,000 more in town-department salaries.

The town-department salary total includes shutting down all town departments except police, fire, water and sewer, according to Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski. But Stapczynski says town-department participation was never considered by him.

Schools Superintendent Claudia Bach proposed the school furlough to save teachers positions in her budget. After Tom Meyers, teachers union president, called the proposal - which would require union approval - "blackmail," Bach dropped the proposal. She says her decision also came one day after she met with the town manager. Both she and Stapczynski say he told her he did not support a townwide furlough.

The superintendent maintains the school department always said it would pursue a furlough only if other town departments joined it, but other officials disagree, saying they never heard such a condition

Continued on page 2

Web of intrigue

Library eyes Internet to launch discussions

By Andrea Gregory

Many people go to Memorial Hall Library to get information. Soon, Andover library-card holders will be able to go to the library Web site to give information.

The library is launching an online forum just in time for Town Meeting. Residents with something to say will be allowed to express their feelings and send out messages via the Internet in a bulletin-board style. They also will be able to provide charts and attachments if they believe it will help get their point across.

"Welcome it as an opportunity to have a say in the community," says Library Director Jim Sutton. "We're really excited to be presenting this."

Sutton says the forum will debut prior to Town Meeting. There's no set date yet, but he assures it's coming soon.

Continued on page 4

WHO HAS A TICKET TO RIDE?

Andover's busing rules are operated under a School Committee mandate that provides more service than is mandated by Massachusetts law. Andover currently buses students in kindergarten to grade 5 who live more than 1.5 miles from school, and students in grades 6 to 12 who live more than two miles from school. The state requires busing for elementary students who live beyond two miles. It doesn't require the schools to bus students in grades 7 to 12 at all.

Bus fees coming

Students will pay to ride next year

By Ben Hellman

Andover schools plan to raise \$225,000 by charging students in grades 7-12 to ride the bus next school year.

Legally, the town doesn't have to provide busing after grade 6. School officials haven't yet decided how bus fees will be administered for the coming school year.

Schools Business Manager Bernie Tuttle said the fee would be a "user fee" and would only be charged to students who ride the bus.

"You can only charge someone who participates," he said.

Tuttle has not decided how much the schools will charge per student, but said other districts have charged

As schools talk layoffs, candidate proposes bold change to SPED

8

\$200 to \$250 for comparable services.

Wood Hill Middle School Parent Advisory Committee co-president Kristen Wise said parents have been so concerned with teacher cuts, they may not be aware of the planned bus fees. "I don't think this is broadly known by parents," said Wise.

Wise said the fee would boil down to less than a dollar for each one-way ride, but called the total amount

Continued on page 8



PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Last Thursday's snowstorm had police attending to about eight car accidents. But since 1998, it's been the fire department that's seen a sharp increase in its accident responses.

Since 1998

Fire handling twice as many car crashes

By Andrea Gregory

The Andover Fire Department is responding to twice as many motor vehicle accidents as it did in 1998, although the number of accidents reported by town police have remained roughly the same during that time.

In fact, while Andover police responded to 71 fewer accidents in 2002 than in 1998, the number covered by the fire department has grown from 181 in 1998 to 403 in 2002.

One reason for the difference between the two departments' figures is state police usually respond to and file reports on highway incidents in Andover, says Fire Chief Charles H. Murnane Jr.

"We don't follow the same numbers," says Murnane. Injuries or the possibilities of

injuries must be reported for the fire department to go to the scene. He says the numbers recorded by his department reflect the actual calls they respond to and include highway accidents and accidents they help out with in other towns.

"Just try driving from one end of Main Street to the other and see how many people are talking on cell phones."

FIRE CHIEF
CHUCK MURNANE

"There are a lot of accidents on 93 and 495 and we're getting more and more," Murnane says.

Police Sgt. John Pathiakos agrees Andover police don't often need to cover highway accidents for the state police. "Just because of the speed involved,"

he says there's more of a likelihood for injuries in highway accidents.

Murnane says the role of the fire department is to stabilize the injured and make sure they are taken to the hospital.

Continued on page 5

Index

Arts & Entertainment	21
Business	16
Classified/Real Estate	24
Crossword	22
Editorial	6
Education	14
Letters	6
Obituaries	12
Police Log	5
Sports	17
Townpeople	9
Town Talk	9



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By Andrea Gregory

Selectmen Chairman Ray Hender was the only selectman to attend a meeting on Jan. 31, the Friday before the release of the school budget. He says that meeting was the first time he

She says, since the superintendent's budget came out before the town manager's budget, the idea was presented with-

According to Stapczynski, it's a bad idea to use a furlough as a crutch one year because if economic circumstances don't improve the next year another, longer furlough could be set, causing a snowball effect.

■ TWO DAYS

Continued from page 1

until after she withdrew her proposal (see sidebar, page 2).

As for the \$55,000 Stapczynski says would be saved with a town- departments furlough, Bach believes town departments could have saved more by being more flexible.

"I knew it would probably be

PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski says he never considered closing Town Offices for a day or two to save money.

half as much (as the school department saved)," Bach says. "Certainly it also would have been a gesture."

Bach also says she sees opportunities for departments such as fire, police, water and sewer to take part in a furlough by not calling substitute workers for employees who do not come to work. "People are absent, peo-

ple are sick," she says.

"If she said that, she should mind her own business," says Fire Chief Charles H. Murmane Jr. "She messed up her own budget and we're not going to have her mess up ours, and we're not interested in doing a furlough."

No dependence

Stapczynski says he doesn't

want the town to become dependent on furloughs, creating a snowball effect, with furloughs growing year after year as a way to save money. If he believed the furlough would be just a one-time thing, he says, he might see things differently.

Stapczynski says he doesn't know if sharing his position with Bach and School Committee Chairwoman Tina Girdwood had any influence on Bach backing out of the furlough. But he says he does not advocate using furloughs and says town departments never had any intentions of holding one to supplement programs that will otherwise be cut.

Bach says she's not sure she agrees a furlough may lead to more furloughs, but knowing where Stapczynski stands did have an impact and the following day she pulled any possibility of a furlough.

"Don't get me wrong, it has its place and has its uses," Stapczynski says, of furloughs. "We've done a furlough in the past."

In 1992 town departments held a half-day furlough while the school department reaped some of the benefits.


Sue Jenkins, School Committee chairwoman at the time, says a portion of the money was relegated to the school department, though "I would put money on the fact they (school employees) didn't go on furlough."

Finance Committee Chairwoman Joanne Marden says a furlough should not be seen as a "one-size-fits-all" solution.

"It's hard to make one rule and one plan and say it has to be townwide," she says. "I just don't think that anything that tries to do the same thing across the board is ever going to work."

According to Marden, town departments are individually finding solutions to their budget problems. Police have reduced overtime and community services has increased fees to keep from laying off employees.


"The different departments are taking different approaches to deal with the revenues they have," says Marden.

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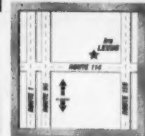
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IN BRIEF

PAST AND PRESENT



The shots above show Bartlet Street, looking south and uphill from Morton Street. The top photo was taken before 1890 and shows the Theological Chapel in the distance, and Stowe House on the left.

PA faculty take on alum Bush on war

Seventy-seven current and nine emeriti members of the faculty of Phillips Academy, have signed a petition to President George W. Bush, Phillips Academy Class of 1964, urging him to "halt our country's current rush to war with Iraq and instead use the full moral and diplomatic might of our country to disarm Saddam Hussein."

Similar petitions are being circulated by students and members of the staff, according to Diane L. Moore, director of the school's Brace Center for Gender Studies. The petition originated from a group of faculty and staff members who formed a group last spring called the Sweet Honey Society. The society has organized several events on campus to protest the war.

In addition to calling for diplomatic means to disarm Hussein, the petition also calls upon the president and elected representatives to "reevaluate the moral, legal and strategic merits of the administration's current doctrine of 'preemptive action' as put forth in the National Security Strategy of Sept. 20, 2002. The presumption that we may attack a country that is not imminently threatening but may become a future threat appears to be in direct contravention of international law and the United Nations Charter. Moreover, it stands to have severely destabilizing results in our country and around the world, inciting rather than deterring the proliferation and escalation of war and terrorism, including the use of nuclear weapons."

Finally, signers said they "further believe that the security interests of our country are better served by investments in education, health, and jobs for all Americans rather than the expenditure of increased billions to finance a war and its aftermath."

Quote, unquote . . .

INCLUSION IS POLITICALLY CORRECT and it's very expensive to be fashionable.

— Louis Velazquez, School Committee candidate, who wants to create an alternative program for special-education students. (Story, page 8)

SHE MESSED UP HER OWN BUDGET and we're not going to have her mess up ours, and we're not interested in doing a furlough.

— Fire Chief Charles H. Murnane Jr. on Superintendent Claudia Bach suggesting all town departments could take some role in a furlough. (Story, page 1)

News Calendar

Thursday, March 13

Strategic Planning Task Force, Town Offices, third floor, 7:30 a.m.

Council on Aging, Town Offices, third floor, 8 a.m.

Senior Center Task Force, Town Offices, second floor, 1 p.m.

Monday, March 17

Selectmen, Town Offices, third floor, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 18

Pesticide Reduction Task Force, Water Treatment Plant, Lowell Street (Rte. 133), conference room, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Planning Board, Town Offices, third floor, 7:30 p.m.

School Committee, school administration building, 7:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission, Town Offices, second floor, 7:45 p.m.

Wednesday, March 19

Memorial Hall Library Trustees, public hearing on Internet access policy, top floor, 4:45 p.m.

Selectmen, Finance Committee, Town Offices, third floor, 7 p.m.

Recycling Committee, Town Offices, second floor, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 20

Senior Center Task Force, Town Offices, second floor, 1 p.m.

Friday, March 21

West Elementary School Council, conference room, 8-9 a.m.

Monday, March 24

Selectmen, Finance Committee, Town Offices, third floor, 7 p.m.

Senior Center Task Force, Senior Center, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 26

Selectmen, Finance Committee joint meeting, Town Offices, third floor, 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 27

Senior Center Task Force, Town Offices, second floor, 1 p.m.

Blood drive March 20

Residents can donate blood at Charlie Sheehan Memorial Blood Drive on Thursday, March 20 at St. Robert's Church Hall, 198 Haggetts Pond Road. Donor hours are 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. "The fact is, nearly 1,600 units of blood are needed each day to help those in need right here in our own community. It is a challenge to collect enough blood to meet the needs of hospital patients year round," according to the Red Cross.

Anyone 17 years or older, weighing 110 pounds or more and feeling in good health may be eligible to donate blood. Call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543) with any questions about donating blood, or visit the Web site www.newenglandblood.org.

March health clinics

The Andover Health Department will have a mini-clinic on Monday, March 24 from 1 to 2 p.m. at Frye Circle. Senior-center clinics will be held 2 to 3 p.m. each Wednesday, March 5, 12, 19 and 26. No appointment is necessary.

Paths meeting

Andover Community Paths Committee will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18, at Memorial Hall Library in the ground-floor community room.

Among the topics to be discussed are the Shawsheen footbridge, students walking to school, the search for West Andover paths, and a Town Meeting warrant article, according to a release from one member.

Blue Star Banners

The Andover Veterans Services Office has revived the World War I and World War II tradition of presenting wives and parents of active-duty service members with a Blue Star Banner to hang in a home window, officially recognizing that a family member is serving his or her country. The banners are free and may be obtained by calling John Doherty, veterans agent, at 978-623-8218.

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VIGIL PLANNED

Remembering Alex a year later

It's been basketball mania in the halls of Andover High School these past few weeks. But, students have by no means forgotten a one-time basketball player who never got the chance to play for the girls varsity team.

This Saturday, March 15, marks the one-year anniversary of the death of Alexandra J. "Alex" Miliotis. The popular athlete was just 16 when she died of cancer last year.

In observance of the anniversary, friends and family members will gather tomorrow night, Friday, March 14, after the Mr. Andover High School event to remember the three-sport athlete who also played soccer and softball in town. Alex's twin sister, Arianna, a junior who plays for the girls varsity basketball team, will hold a simple, candlelight vigil around 10:30 p.m. outside the high school along with other

classmates. The group plans to walk to Alex's grave at West Parish Cemetery after the vigil, according to Alex's mom, Patti Miliotis.



Andover High students are planning a Friday vigil to remember Alex Miliotis.

"There's a great circle of people at the high school who wanted to remember Alex," Patti said.

Social studies teacher Mary Robb helped organize the vigil, which she said will be very brief and simple but much-needed for many students who are still grieving for Alex.

"The goal is to remember Alex and give those who miss her an opportunity to mark the one-year anniversary," Robb said.

As last year's Mr. AHS event wound down, it was announced that Alex had lost her battle with a rare form of childhood leukemia, despite a bone-marrow transplant from her twin sister. Alex died that day. Several students immediately gathered outside the high school for a touching impromptu vigil.

— Judy Wakefield



Hilda Buss and Meghan O'Connor discuss justice at the Lanam Club last Thursday.

No 'SHHHH!' at this library site

WEB FORUM PROPOSED

Continued from page 1

The forum will start on a trial basis with the first round of discussions anchored by the topic of Town Meeting. He says it's important to keep the forum about specific issues, but he foresees as many as 100 topics available for people to comment on in the future.

"We think it has great potential for improving the dialog about ideas that concern the town," he says.

According to Sutton, anything pertaining to Town Meeting is fair game with the exception of inappropriate comments or attacks. Statements rejected for any reason will be returned and the sender asked to rephrase the comment.

"We're not going to be in the business of censoring things," he says. "It's a free country and open forum."

The person's real name must be attached to all messages on the forum. There will be no screen names and the operation will be monitored from the library. This process won't allow messages to go up the instant they are sent, and is meant to prevent misuse of the forum and off-topic comments.

"It's more like letters to the editor," says Sutton,

and not like a chat room.

"They (people) can be very vicious if their identity is concealed," says Matt Russell, library trustee.

Sutton gives Russell credit for the idea of a town forum, but Russell insists it was really a group concept.

"We've been talking about it for years," Russell says. "The idea just comes from what is needed to draw people in from town."

Though Russell says there are plenty of active forums on the Web, he isn't aware of any other Massachusetts town that has one.

"Andover has always been ahead of the pack," he says.

Russell and Sutton both say they hope for a large turnout. Residents and local officials are both invited to take part, but the intent is for all voices and opinions to hold equal weight and ideas be given fair consideration. They say it is an equal platform of ideal and everyone posting will be doing as a citizen.

"It's purpose is to draw out the incredibly creative, talented people in this town and to engage as many people as possible into a discussion on how the town should be run," says Russell.

Justice for all (ages)

Students tackle issues at Kiwanis forum

By Andrea Gregory

Kids know from an early age that life's not always fair. Last Thursday, eighth-graders actually talked about such injustices from their own perspective — and even discussed possible solutions — at a youth summit at the Lanam Club in Andover.

Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Greater Lawrence and the Greater Lawrence Educational Collaborative, the summit brought together 13 young minds from middle schools across the Merrimack Valley to help encourage tomorrow's leaders, said Larry Larsen, Kiwanis Club member.

Rev. Dr. Cal Mutti, senior minister at South Church in Andover, said when it came to the issue of injustice, the kids were able to personalize it very quickly.

According to Hilda Buss, a student at West Middle School in Andover, being the youngest member of her family comes with its share on injustice.

"I don't think that's justice that I can be drowned out at the dinner table," she said. "Sometimes my words do have some meaning."

She also said she's noticed teachers cut more slack to the students who get better grades.

"There are certain cases where you have to show

mercy," said Meghan O'Connor, a student at St. Augustine in Andover. "Maybe there's more to the story."

"They're on the cusp of some remarkable decisions," said Larsen, who is also a clinical psychologist, about the eighth-graders invited to participate.

Larsen, a member of the

"There are certain cases where you have to show mercy."

STUDENT MEGHAN O'CONNOR, ON TEACHERS' RELATIONSHIPS WITH STUDENTS.

Kiwanis Club, has been involved with the summits since they began five years ago. He said the kids, hand-picked by their teachers to attend, were known for their academic accomplishments and interest in sharing their ideas.

"They're generally very articulate," he said. "It gives you real hope for the human race."

According to Larsen, having one or two of them become "powerhouses" or "movers and shakers" is all that's needed to prove these yearly forums worthwhile. "We wanted to influence their high-school careers and

college careers," he said.

The kids were divided into three groups and spent the morning attending two out of three workshops. Mutti lead a discussion on the morals and ethics related to delivering justice. "There's a price to pay when you want to be a change agent," Mutti warned. "Leadership can be very lonely."

William Ketter, editor-in-chief of the *Eagle Tribune* Publishing Company, addressed justice from a media perspective and discussed the First Amendment. Associate Dean Michael Coyne of Massachusetts School of Law in Andover talked about justice in the legal system.

But it was the kids — full of ideas and gathering insight from one another — who did most of the talking.

"They all have really great ideas to express and to the debate," said O'Connor, the student at St. Augustine, about her peers. "It was nice to get to know people and let them know what I think."

Buss said achieving complete justice is impossible, but it doesn't mean society can't improve.

"One person can make a difference, but that difference would be a lot greater if a group of people got together to make a difference," O'Connor said.

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Chief: Cell phones ringing up crashes

■ ACCIDENTS ON RISE
Continued from page 1

He says they don't investigate the scene or the cause of accidents, but he does suggest one possibility for the rise in accidents they've recorded — the number of people using cellular phones while driving.

"Just try driving from one end of Main Street to the other and see how many people are talking on cell phones," he says.

"Weather is the biggest factor," Pathiakakis says, but coming in second are drivers who are not paying attention. Cellular phone use while driving, he says, fits into the category, but it's hard to actually calculate the role cell-phone use plays in accidents.

"Most of the time they're not going to admit that," he says about drivers.

With newer drivers, both lack of experience and lack of attention can be problems, he says.

According to Pathiakakis, the visibility of police cars checking people's speed in high traffic areas has stabilized the number of in-town accidents.

"We go to the hot spots," he says. "Route 28 and River Road."

He says, just as they are aware more accidents take place on these streets, the general public knows to expect traffic enforcement in these areas and slows down or pays more attention because of it.

He says the police department has had traffic enforcement on the roads 16 hours per day, seven days per week, but due to budget cuts will cut traffic enforcement, such as radar traps, about 40 percent next year.

"You'll see a little less reinforcement," he says. "The outcome of that is just more accidents."

He doesn't believe the traffic enforcement left in place after the cuts will have the same curbing effect on accidents, but says it's a good thing Andover police have a reputation for regularly monitoring certain areas.

"It will take awhile for (speeders) to notice we're not out there," Pathiakakis says. "Hopefully, by then, the financial situation will be better."



The town's budget problems may cause police to set fewer speed traps, which a police sergeant says may lead to more accidents.

While the number of accidents recorded by and responded to by Andover police has remained about the same during the last five years, the Andover fire department has continually responded to a greater number of accidents each year.

Total accidents, recorded by police	Andover Police accident responses	Andover Fire accident responses
1998 - 1,313 accidents	1998 - 883	1998 - 181
1999 - 1,164	1999 - 913	1999 - 249
2000 - 1,184	2000 - 947	2000 - 283
2001 - 1,243	2001 - 865	2001 - 321
2002 - 1,351	2002 - 812	2002 - 403

Town: Keep it off the sidewalks

Businesses not allowed to have signs, company mascots on public walkways

By Andrea Gregory

Town-owned sidewalks are supposed to be free of signs, merchandise and life-size wooden men sitting in chairs, but downtown businesses aren't always compliant or aware of the bylaw.

"I've found no reason to (do that) because I'm right on Main Street," says Jon Simko.

But that's not the case for all the shops. This week there were at least three businesses breaking the rule about sidewalk advertisements. Some businesses put out signs or other items but keep them in their doorways, technically off the public sidewalk.

"I don't have a feeling one way or the other about it," Simko says. "If a sign is there I'll walk around it."

"All those signs are not allowed on town property," says Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski.

Stapczynski says the enforcement tends to be complaint-driven and there is no permit or waiver a business owner can apply for to put signs on public sidewalks.

Businesses on private streets like Post Office Avenue are allowed to put signs on their private sidewalks as long as they don't cross onto Main Street or another public way.

"I'm putting out a small sign to say I'm in business," says Mimi Queen, owner of Sweet Mimi's. "I live in town. I pay taxes in town. I'm not hurting anybody."

She says the small businesses are what makes downtown Andover vital and believes the shops that do not have Main Street windows need to do something to make their presence known. She points out the banners hanging from the Barnard Building on Main Street show a solution other than

using the sidewalks, for shops above the first floor.

Hometown Seafoods has a sign tied to the railing and a life-size wooden man named "Mr. Seaweed" who sits beside it. Gene Marshall, store owner says Mr. Seaweed and his sign are kept off the sidewalk at their new location on Chestnut Street, but things were different on Barnard Street.

"We used to have a chair and he sat in the chair for three or four years," Marshall says, but he was never bothered about it and never heard any complaints about his wooden friend.

Marshall thinks people like seeing Mr. Seaweed and believe the wooden man has become a trademark people associate with his store.



Cingular advertises its business with signs on the large sidewalk in front of Elm Square.



"Mr. Seaweed" on Chestnut Street is one of several outdoor marketing ideas used by downtown businesses. He sits in a piece of curbing next to the sidewalk.

Smith: Combine school, town tech

Savings could be \$500,000, he says

By Ben Hellman

School Committee member Christopher Smith this week suggested cutting schools technology staffing nearly in half for an estimated savings of \$500,000. It is part of a plan to consolidate technology use with town departments and save money, said Smith.

Smith said the schools should cut the number of technology employees it pays from 16 to nine and have the town and schools operate one technology department to be run under a single director. He said this will avoid duplicating administrative positions. He is suggesting the change to avoid proposed teacher cuts in the schools, he said.

"I find it difficult to keep dedicated technology positions while eliminating other classroom teachers," said Smith.

Superintendent Claudia Bach said such a move would require help from the town and that currently talk of consolidating was only talk. "There are preliminary discussions," she said.

Smith said this week that making the change for 2004 might be unrealistic, but that he would encourage Bach to implement such changes "sooner rather than later."

Schools technology coordinator Ray Tode said the schools various systems were designed separately to keep students from hacking into their grades and other sensitive materials.

But if people can pay their credit-card bills online, said Smith, the schools should be able to keep student hackers out.

Bach said she has been more interested in consolidating services with the town

Continued on page 15

POLICE LOG

ARRESTS

Thursday, March 6 — At 8:08 a.m., Anthony Gomes III, 30, of 10 Middlesex Road, Tyngsborough, was arrested on Argilla Drive and charged on a warrant for number plate violation and driving with a suspended registration.

At 6:08 p.m., a 14-year-old Malden boy was arrested on Spring Grove Drive and charged with disorderly conduct. The juvenile was released to his mother and not locked securely.

At 6:35 p.m., a 15-year-old Malden boy was arrested on Spring Grove Drive and charged with disorderly conduct. Juvenile was released to his mother and not locked securely.

Friday, March 7 — At 6:03 p.m., William Cropper, 33, of 32 Center St., was arrested on Main Street and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol, a marked lanes violation and driving an unregistered motor vehicle.

Saturday, March 8 — At 8:58 p.m., Torin Traynor, 17, of 12 Nicol Drive, was arrested on Rutgers Road and charged with possession of liquor by a person under 21, operating a motor vehicle to endanger, and failure to stop for police.

At 9:13 p.m., Douglas Powers, 17, of 6 Quail Run, was arrested on Rutgers Road and charged with possession of liquor by a person under 21 and possession of a class E substance.

At 9:17 p.m., Patrick Barry, 17, of 7 Stoney Brook Circle, was arrested on Rutgers Road and charged with possession of liquor by a person under 21. Grant Guiliano, 17, of 23 Moraine St., was also arrested on Rutgers Road and charged with possession of liquor by a person under 21.

Sunday, March 9 — At 3:57 p.m., Rafael Rivera, 31, of 7 Sapling Circle, Nashua, was arrested on River Road and charged with receiving stolen property, disorderly conduct, not having an inspection sticker, two counts of attaching wrong plates to a motor vehicle, driving an unregistered motor vehicle and uninsured trailer.

Tuesday, March 11 — At 10:56

a.m., a trucker reported he was threatened by a Supervalue employee with a golf club. Bryan Hall, 25, of 20 Mountbatten Road, Billerica, was arrested on Ballardvale Street and charged with assault with a deadly weapon.

At 9:38 p.m., Jonathan Peguero, 19, of 592 Haverhill St., Lawrence, was arrested on Federal Street and charged with driving with a suspended license and driving an unregistered motor vehicle.

THEFTS

Wednesday, Feb. 5 — At 9:33 a.m., a Brookside Drive resident reported his car broken into during the night.

At 11:59 a.m., a Wildwood Road resident reported a check was stolen from her house and cashed.

At 4:15 p.m., Wyndham Hotel reported three vending machines were broken into.

At 8:54 p.m., a resident reported her wallet stolen the previous night at the Ground Round.

Tuesday, March 11 — At 7:05 p.m., an Andover Country Club Lane resident reported a \$5,000 necklace stolen from her house. She kept the necklace in her purse on a chair in the kitchen and thinks it was stolen during the last week. An officer is interviewing people who have access to her home.

INCIDENTS

Thursday, March 6 — At 11:26 a.m., a Howell Drive resident reported his home was broken into between Monday and Thursday. An officer reported nothing was stolen.

Tuesday, March 11 — At 9:26 a.m., on Railroad Street, a woman locked her young child in the car and dropped her keys in a donation bin. Officer Magliozzi climbed in the bin and retrieved them.

AUTO INCIDENTS

Thursday, March 6 — At 7:26 a.m., Andover police and firefighters assisted state police and officers from Wilmington and Tewksbury for a automobile roll over on Interstate 93. Two minor injuries were reported.

COMPILED BY BEN HELLMAN

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Political Advertisement

TONY JAMES

FOR SCHOOL COMMITTEE



Andover is facing mounting financial pressures and uncertainty. Difficult choices will be made in every town department. I believe my professional and personal experiences have provided me with the skills to

- navigate through these tough times,
- listen to diverse opinions, build consensus,
- find innovative ways of doing more with less.

My skills will be of value not only for working with the School Committee, but also for building strong and productive relationships with the Selectmen, Finance Committee, and other community leaders.

Professional Experience: successful 34 year career with Cabot Corporation, as
➤ VP & GM of Asia Pacific Operations (P&L responsibility for businesses in 5 countries)
➤ GM of Engineering Division (global engineering, project management, construction)
➤ VP of Human Resources
➤ VP of Safety, Health and Environmental Affairs
➤ Director of Strategic Planning

Education: Ph.D. Chemical Engineering
B.S. Fuel Technology & Chemical Engineering
B.S. Chemistry & Fuel Technology

Community Involvement:
➤ Service Club of Andover
➤ Doherty Middle School Council
➤ Andover High School Council
➤ Dana Farber One-to-One Cancer Connection
➤ Winchester Hospital Best Practices Study
➤ Andover and Ipswich soccer coach (former)

Filed for by the Committee to Elect Tony James, 17 Cornhill, Topsham, 10 Rogers Street, Andover, MA

THE SKILLS TO NAVIGATE THROUGH TOUGH TIMES

Opinion

Tackling tech is the right call

WHAT'S MISSING FROM MOST budget discussions, even in difficult years such as this one?

A willingness to upset the apple cart, to suggest wholesale changes in operation, and not simply accept the current formula. Cuts are always difficult, but they can be easier to make than challenging an existing bureaucracy or a stale policy backed by long-time officials or unions.

When School Committee member Christopher Smith came into office last year, he arrived as someone who said he would challenge the status quo. This week, he delivered by calling on the town and schools to combine their technology-oversight operations to eliminate duplication. This will mean eliminating some people's jobs, but Smith didn't shrink from his responsibility to present the idea. Officials should always do this publicly when they believe such a change will save more important governmental functions. But not all are willing to do so.

The specifics of Smith's idea still need to be worked out. However, the general concept is supported by the superintendent and at least one selectman, and is worth serious consideration.

Whomever Andover chooses as its two new School Committee members on March 25, we hope they follow this type of lead. They should come in ready to question and bring about the type of significant change that can prevent the schools most cherished programs from being cut.

Web question

Bus fees: Fair or foul?

Last week's *Townsmen* Web-site question was:

Private snowplow drivers make \$60 to \$100 per hour, working on a type of honor system. Is the town putting too much faith and possibly too much money into the snow-removal business?

45 people responded.

• 7, or 16 percent, said "Andover roads are always the best around. So what if they do not punch in? The time they work shows in the quality of our roads."

• 16, or 36 percent, said "They should have to check in when their shifts start and end. Someone needs to verify they are actually there and doing the work."

• 22, 49 percent, said "They are getting paid a lot of money and should be watched more closely. They should be checking in every hour. Maybe this is why Andover spends so much more (\$1.4 million this year) than other towns."

This week's question: Students in grades 7-12 might not by getting a free ride next school year if plans to charge bus fees go through. The goal would be to raise \$225,000 from charging students for bus service. That would break down to about \$250 per student for a year of bus service. Is the service worth the cost?

• Times are hard and I don't see anything wrong with parents paying for services their children use.

• I pay taxes in this town and think that should be enough for my kid(s) to ride a school bus.

• I plan on taking the money it would cost to ride the bus next year and buying my kid the best bike at equal cost. Who needs buses?

• Next year, bus fees; the year after, tuition? Some things in life - like attending public school - are meant to be free.

To cast a vote, surf to www.andovertownsmen.com.

LETTERS POLICY

THE *Townsmen* accepts letters to the editor from the community. Letters must be typed and no longer than two, double-spaced pages. All letter writers must include addresses and phone numbers with their letters. The phone numbers will not be published.

The paper reserves the right to edit letters at its discretion. Reasons for editing include editing for length, clarity and style.

Letters should be received by the *Townsmen* by Monday at 5 p.m. for consideration in that week's paper. They may be sent by mail, fax or e-mail. As a general rule, the paper does not publish anonymous letters or thank-you letters.

It also does not publish letters for candidates in the issue prior to an election. This means it will not publish such letters next week.

HATS OFF - OR ON - TO READING

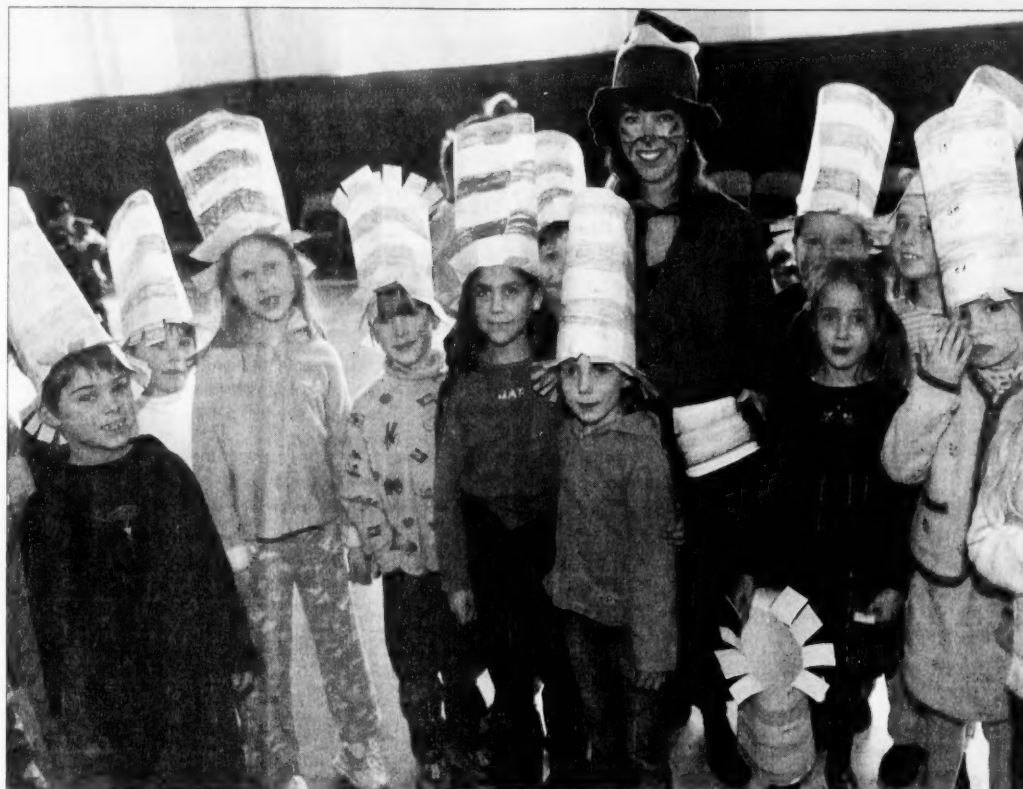


PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Shawsheen School children and media specialist Elizabeth Lamoreaux celebrated reading last Thursday. The Cat in the Hat planned to come to some schools today, Thursday, March 13, after its visit to town last week was canceled because of a snowstorm last week. See notice, page 13.

LETTERS

DCS leader deserves praise

Editor, *Townsmen*:

Having read Mary Donohue's department is in trouble. I feel compelled to write.

I have gone on numerous enjoyable bus trips with Donohue, to Boston, the Cape and a casino in Connecticut. I have taken enrichment classes, dancing and computer classes, learned to play bridge and even volunteered at registration time, and this certainly makes me qualified to comment favorably on behalf of the Department of Community Services headed by Donohue. She has enriched the quality of life in Andover.

It is an eye opener for myself and many others how she has managed to raise revenues and support three-fourths of the expenditures of her department. I have seen her put in countless hours for the benefit of the department, going back in the evenings to monitor classes, and oversee that all is going well.

She deserves accolades and our appreciation for her tireless efforts on behalf of the people of Andover. She has added pleasure to many lives.

Evelyn Schelling
262 Barefoot Beach Blvd.
Bonita Springs, Fla.

James for schools

Editor, *Townsmen*:

Tough times call for strong leadership. For that reason, I am strongly supporting Tony James for the School Committee.

I've known James for many years. He has a great combination of concern and caring about the quality of our educational program along with business savvy. In these times, we need to have all interests work together to address the serious problems facing the town of Andover and the Andover schools.

I believe that we have the ability to solve any problem when we bring a common focus to an issue, and build consensus to reach a solution. James has that ability. Andover needs the leadership James can bring, not only to provide the quality educational program that keeps the town vibrant and thriving, but in his ability to work with other boards and groups to set the right course for our future.

Eric J. Nadworny
8 Rogers Brook East

About 'Thursday File'

Steve MacDowall started the file two years ago and sent it to 10 people. Today it is sent to more than 10,000.

The Web site for his creation is www.hudsonvanloo.ca and it suggests books to read and offers quotations such as the ones on this page.

How will Andover ever afford laptops for everyone?

Editor, *Townsmen*:

Two recent letters to the *Townsmen* debated technology spending in the school budget and singled out the laptop pilot program for additional comments. While there are many aspects of the laptop pilot study that are controversial, the biggest issue is how this can ever go forward.

If the studies by Lesley and Boston College show that the laptops dramatically improve education, are we going to purchase 5,600 laptops, so there will be one for every student in the Andover public schools? If we only spend \$1,000 per student, that's \$5.6 million in one year. The computers will need to be upgraded approximately every five years. Even with a staggered replacement schedule, that's still more than \$1 million each year. Students' computers are only part of the cost. There is also the need for teacher training, additional network servers, and more technical staff to handle repairs, upgrades and installation of new software.

If the studies show no substantial benefit, then how can we justify the expense? If the studies show that students are falling behind their peers in general reading, writing, math and analytical skills, then the project is dead.

Whether the students think school is fun now because they can use computers all day isn't the issue. I hope we are going to measure their academic achievement versus their peers in the traditional classrooms. So far, the evidence presented at School Committee meetings has focused on the sophistication of the special effects and graphics techniques of the student projects. We still don't know if their vocabulary or creative writing skills have improved. I'm interested to see how this plays out once they move up to 6th grade and have to work with traditional methods again.

The school budget has been analyzed as never before. I think most people in Andover are convinced there aren't any secret projects taking in mil-

lions of dollars that could be spent instead on classroom teachers. If we can work our way out of this budget crisis and find additional money in the coming years, it will be spent to bring back the teachers and programs we're losing today. I can't imagine a scenario where people are willing to spend millions more for laptop computers but still have poorly funded art, music, physical education, health, and after-school activities.

I hope the picture accompanying Peter O'Kelly's letter in the March 6 issue of the *Townsmen* does not accurately depict the laptop classrooms.

O'Kelly's letter assured us that ergonomic concerns are addressed, but the students are shown working at tables that are too high (or chairs that are not high enough) since their hands have to reach well above their waist to reach the keyboard. Also, notice the bent wrists. This posture contributes to arm and shoulder strain.

Mark Goldstein
Fulton Road

Barber: the man

Editor, *Townsmen*:

When the going gets tough, Art Barber is there for us.

We are indeed fortunate when we have men of character, possessing the education, abilities, and dedication, who are willing to serve on our School Committee during such difficult times. Barber is such a man. He believes that fiscal responsibility and quality education can go hand-in-hand.

I have worked with Barber on the BallardVale-Lowell Junction Traffic Task Force for the past three years. I know him to be a man of his convictions. I ask residents to join me in voting for Barber for School Committee. Our students, as well as our town, need him.

Audrey Nason
River Street

Roberts is a leader with own ideas

Editor, *Townsmen*:

I am writing in support of John Roberts' candidacy for School Committee.

I have worked with Roberts on the Vision 21 Committee since its inception a little more than a year ago. The group had an initial membership of 18 people. Roberts was one of the first to step forward and accept a leadership role as committee vice-chairman as we began to create a functional framework for our work.

Roberts brings several qualities to committee work that I think are particularly valuable: He is focused, articulate, runs a meeting well, grasps details well but stays clear on the big picture, and listens well. It has been my experience that he helps our committee to be more

productive.

As a candidate, he has been the only one to present his ideas in open letters to the School Committee.

He has also delved into the details of the school budget, and has brought forward several ideas that may help Andover streamline expenditures and create new revenue to support the schools.

Roberts has two children in the Andover schools, and is well informed about issues facing mainstream students as well as those pertaining to students with special needs. I think he will be an excellent member of the School Committee in these challenging times.

Amy Janovsky
6 Snowberry Road

THE THURSDAY FILE

We are in danger of developing a cult of the Common Man, which means a cult of mediocrity.

HERBERT HOOVER

We are all travelers in the wilderness of this world, and the best that we can find in our travels is an honest friend.

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

None of us suddenly becomes something overnight. The preparations have been in the making for a lifetime.

GAIL KATHLEEN GODWIN

Good communication is as stimulating as black coffee, and just as hard to sleep after.

ANNE MORROW LINDBERGH

To jaw-jaw is always better than to war-war.

WINSTON CHURCHILL

All the problems of the world could be settled if people were only willing to think. The trouble is that people very often resort to all sorts of devices in order not to think, because thinking is such hard work.

THOMAS JOHN WATSON SR.

When the character of a man is not clear to you, look at his friends.

JAPANESE PROVERB

Eleanor Roosevelt quotation

Do what you feel in your heart to be right - for you'll be criticized anyway. You'll be damned if you do, and damned if you don't.

Best quotation sent

You cannot simultaneously prepare for war and prevent it.

ALBERT EINSTEIN

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LETTERS FOR SCHOOL COMMITTEE CANDIDATES

James: brilliant, caring leader

Editor, Townsman:

I am writing in support of the candidacy of Anthony James for School Committee. James is the retired vice president of a Fortune 500 company whose executive and managerial skills are beyond question. He is brilliant and very adept at analyzing data and evaluating conflicting viewpoints. I know his personality and style is that of a consensus builder who is used to making tough decisions while maintaining warm working relationships with his colleagues and the community as a whole.

We are facing a heart-wrenching time when both federal and state governments are reneging on the laws and fiscal promises they had long set with their cities and towns. I am angry when I see lottery monies (whose sole purpose was the support of cities and towns) are now denied to communities because the state planned so poorly. These are times to cut programs but not to discard the baby with the bath water. Bath water can be replaced; babies cannot. These are times we need James' caring leadership.

Robert King
Argilla Road

Barber has multiple experiences

Editor, Townsman:

There are many candidates for School Committee, but only one, Art Barber, has experience in all five perspectives: educator, businessman, taxpayer, parent and citizen. He has proven himself in all five.

He earned a doctorate in education and then went to work in the toughest teaching environment, business. There are no excuses in business education. Either your program works and works cost effectively or you are out. Results must be quantifiable and relevant.

His wife is a much loved kindergarten teacher in Andover. He lives with the joys and sorrows of teaching. Yet he knows more money is not always the answer.

As a small businessman in this environment he is expanding rather than contracting. He is in a service business. He owns and manages several gas stations. If you can't handle personnel and integrity issues, this is not the tiger you want to have by the tail. Short change a customer or

be impolite and they are gone. Degrade your employees and they are gone. Price is always an issue. How many of us have driven an extra mile to save a few pennies per gallon?

He is a homeowner in Andover for more than a dozen years. He has seen his taxes rise and has questioned where the money is going. Last year at Town Meeting he sought an extension to the sidewalks in his neighbor, so kids could walk to school safely rather than need to be bused.

He has coached his kids in soccer rather than just watch them play. He doesn't know the game any better than the rest of us. He got a book, took the hands-on instruction offered, learned the game and put it into practice. Ask any kid who has played for him, and she will remember him as the man who offered insightful encouragement and not sugary praise.

He will be here for us. He has said he was sitting in his new office in New York making great money when he realized in that position he was moving further away from his family. He was missing out on the lives of his wife and his kids. He has been home ever since.

Barber is one of us. He has the educational background at work and at home to know its value to our children and our property values. He has the experience in business today and foresight for the future. He counts his pennies because they make dollars. He has a passion for his community to make a difference that all of us are proud of. He has and still is coaching our kids. He is home every night by choice. He can and does make the hard choices daily. I heartily endorse his candidacy.

Frank Nigh
11 Stevens Circle

Following a long-standing policy, no letters for candidates will be printed in next week's Townsman.

Roberts has long-term view

Editor, Townsman:

Next year we will have a student at each level of the Andover school system (9th grade, 7th grade, and 3rd grade) and we are concerned about the impact of budget constraints on each of them. However, if there is one area we are most concerned about it is the impact of the budget constraints on Andover High School. The competition for a limited number of spots in colleges and universities is intense and Andover cannot afford to sacrifice excellence in its high school program. There are simply too many other good public high schools and private secondary schools in the area.

Andover High School's reputation as one of the top high schools in the state is dependent on providing the students with a rich educational experience, not a minimal educational experience. Some of the proposals being considered, such as cutting credits, threaten to reduce the quality of education the students receive. As goes the high school, so goes the town's reputation and desirability as a place to live. [Note: We moved to the Boston area from out of state five years ago. Our decision to settle in Andover was heavily influenced by its reputation in education.]

We are not suggesting that it's all about the high school we also want our two children still in the elementary and middle schools to get the best possible education. But we don't want them to arrive at a high school that has a diminished reputation. We support thoughtful trade-offs that optimize our limited educational resources. For example, we would rather see money currently allocated for technology in the elementary schools spent to maintain credit levels at the high school. To put the trade-off in perspective, the technology the elementary students are using today (computers and the applications that run on them) will be obsolete by the time they get to college. What stays with them for the rest of their lives are good communication skills, good problem solving skills, and an ability to make sense of the world we live in, none of which is dependent on the technology they use today.

We are supporting John Roberts for School Committee because he understands the trade-offs necessary to maintain Andover's reputation for excellent schools. Please make your own choice after thinking carefully about the long term consequences of your decision, not just what it means for your children next year.

Leif and Paula Eriksen
1 Prides Circle

Tracy Callahan
6 David Drive

No learning curve for Gerry Gustus

Editor, Townsman:

I am writing this letter to urge the residents of Andover to vote for Gerry Gustus for School Committee. Gustus has served our town as a very active member of the School Committee for the past three years. In addition to the many hours required of fulfilling that role, he has made many selfless contributions volunteering countless hours to lead task force teams and participate in school activities and workshops. His commitment is obvious from his 100-percent attendance record as a School Committee member. Perhaps it is his intangible contributions that have served Andover most significantly, though.

His compassion for the students has been enormous. His courage to ask or answer the tough questions and his genuine

interest to listen to differing perspectives from our community is very valuable in these difficult times.

The role of the School Committee is very difficult and there is no learning curve necessary for Gustus as he already knows the challenges of the position. Gustus especially understands the fiscal challenge, as he has been involved in the school and town budget process, teacher-contract negotiations, and construction of the new schools during the past three years. The fact that he is willing to serve our community again is a blessing to Andover. I encourage people to get out and vote on March 25 for Gustus, for his selfless commitment, his experience, and his passion for Andover.

Jim Ricciardelli
6 Robinswood Way

James' life has prepared him

Editor, Townsman:

I would like to wholeheartedly endorse Tony James for School Committee. I have known James for many years as a committed parent, coach, and Andover resident. James is someone I admire and respect for his integrity and strength of character. He has suffered tremendous personal loss and is also a cancer survivor. Yet in spite of these devastating setbacks, James maintains a very positive and enthusiastic view of life and has become strengthened in his conviction to give back to those who have given him so much. As such, he is involved with the Dana Farber One to One Cancer Connection and councils newly diagnosed cancer patients; had initiated a research project entitled "Physicians' Best Practices" to assist doctors at Winchester Hospital; is an active, contributing member of the Doherty Middle School Council, and a member of the Sevice Club of Andover. With a

successful career behind him, James has the luxury of time to fully embrace the position on the School Committee.

These are very challenging times when all of us will begin to feel the loss of teachers and valuable educational programs and services we have taken for granted in years past. I feel James' life experiences equip him with the fortitude to forge forward in these troubling times. In order to bring about any change, one must first be able to identify what the problems are through patiently listening to the many opinions out there. James is quite successful at this and is then able to bring these diverse ideas together in one room to begin to formulate plans for improvement. This year more than ever, we need someone with James' experience, skills and time to be effective on the School Committee. Please join me in voting for him.

Bonnie Spurr
43 Lucerne Drive

Roberts brings creative thinking

Editor, Townsman:

I am writing in support of John Roberts' candidacy for School Committee and I ask Andover voters to consider the leadership, energy and creativity that he would bring to that office. In a Feb. 20 letter to the Townsman, Roberts offered several fresh ideas for addressing school-budget concerns, proposing not only specific expense reductions but also options for generating additional revenues through marketing of existing town facilities. We need this kind of creative thinking to enable the Andover School Committee to successfully navigate through the budget, staffing and policy-making challenges ahead.

I first met Roberts when we were both undergraduate students at Bowdoin College. In 1987, Roberts and his family moved to Andover where we were reunited as friends and neighbors. Roberts transferred to Atlanta in the early 1990s as an executive with The Home Depot

and later returned to Massachusetts to start a successful real-estate development company. Not surprisingly, it was the Andover school system that brought Roberts and his family back to Andover for a second time. Roberts is a strong believer in the Andover school system. He has been a tireless advocate for Andover special education and is committed to developing and sustaining an affordable educational environment that benefits all of Andover's students.

As a former corporate executive and successful entrepreneur, Roberts is a candidate with a proven resume of business acumen, experience, leadership and vision. He has the courage to challenge convention and brings a new perspective to solving complex problems. Roberts will be the change agent that the Andover School Committee needs and I enthusiastically endorse his candidacy.

Richard J. LeGrow
Abbot Bridge Drive

Gustus has proven himself

Editor, Townsman:

As the High Plain Elementary PTO Co-president, I would like to publicly take this opportunity to support Gerry Gustus in his re-election bid for Andover's School Committee. Gustus has consistently supported all aspects of the new schools for all the right reasons. The residents of Andover should be appreciative and grateful for all he has done and continues to do for our children.

Recently, at a budget forum, a wide range of views regarding our school system's priorities were discussed and debated. Predictably, the most important priorities that parents agreed upon were keeping class sizes low, as well as continuing the diversity of programs currently being offered to our children. Of

course, something must give, since we have to reduce some services to meet the school department's budget. Gustus continues to look for creative ways to meet the needs of the budget without hurting the education that our children deserve.

Gustus has worked continually and consistently on behalf of our children and their educational needs. He has made himself available to anyone, at any time, to discuss his or her ideas or concerns. We are fortunate to have Gerry Gustus on our School Committee and I encourage people to support his candidacy for re-election.

Martha Hyslip
Somerset Drive
PTO Co-President
High Plain
Elementary School

Barber is a candidate for both students, taxpayers

Editor, Townsman:

I have lived in Andover for 11 years and have never publicly endorsed a political candidate. So why now am I choosing to support Arthur H. Barber for School Committee? Because I believe we finally have a candidate for School Committee who possesses what I believe to be three critical characteristics in these difficult financial times.

1. I want someone who will watch out for the best interest of my children's education as well as my best interest as a taxpayer. Barber does not support raising taxes or an override, but believes evaluating the school budget line-by-line might reveal more savings. He is passionate about maximizing the impact of each dollar in the budget. With a wife

and two daughters in the Andover school system, he has an inside look at the state of our schools.

2. Not only do I want someone who can make educated, intelligent recommendations regarding the budget, but someone who has the courage to carry out these plans. Barber has a doctorate in education, as well as his school-superintendent certification. He was an educator in the high-tech world for many years and is now a small business owner. His education and experience are not the only things that set him apart from the rest. He is articulate, concise and to the point. If elected, he will bring with him to the board, a sense of efficiency and intrepidity.

3. I want a dedicated representative for this often thankless position. I know first-hand of Barber's dedication to a project, having worked with him for a year and a half on the Senior Center Task Force. I witnessed Barber enthusiastically attending weekly meetings, always willing to go the extra mile to make sure we were thorough, and never quivering at the thought of standing up in a (not always supportive) crowd to report our findings.

I had the opportunity to introduce Barber to a group of people at my house last Thursday night and he was overwhelmingly well-received. Without reservation, I highly recommend him for School Committee.

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LETTERS

Happy Teichert is returning; supports 'not placing priority'

Editor, *Townsmen*:

It is great to see Ted Teichert running for reelection for town selectman. Despite his busy work and family schedules, he still wants to give back to the community. Andover voters should vote for Teichert for selectman on March 25. I have known him for 20 years and during that time, he has always been active in the town. He has put in countless hours for the Andover Junior Football League, Eastern Mass. Buddy Warner Program, and as vice-chairman of the Millennium Committee, a proven sign of his commitment to the town.

During Teichert's time as selectman, new schools were completed and the safety center construction is continuing. His vision is to continue to maintain and improve Andover.

His view that all town depart-

ments are of equal value is commendable. Not placing priority on one department allows the community to work as a whole. He realizes that, in this fiscally strained period, the town will have to tighten its budget.

I have personally worked with Teichert through the AJFL and can testify to his dedication and commitment to Andover and not his own personal agenda. I applaud him for running a campaign, although he is running unopposed. This is a testament to his commitment.

Nancy Tassinari
5 Montego Circle

Following a long-standing policy, no letters for candidates will be printed in next week's Townsman, the last before the election.



Jamie Dufresne Dixon

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SPED costs may lead to April layoffs

School Committee candidate proposes controversial change in SPED

By Ben Hellman

Providing special education will cost \$450,000 more than expected this year and may cause layoffs as soon as April vacation, schools business manager Bernie Tuttle announced this week.

"If I have to, the major contributing factor would be unfunded positions that were added this year, particularly in SPED and probably a secondary would be the severity of the winter to date," said Tuttle.

The announcement came at the School Committee's presentation to the Selectmen and Finance Committee. It prompted School Committee candidate Louis Velazquez to ask some questions about how Andover services its special-education students.

"Why don't we develop a mainstream special-education program?" he asked. He suggests calling it "alternative education" to take away the stigma of separating students from the mainstream. Velazquez is a psychiatrist and professional special-education consultant for the town of Lynn. He doesn't think inclusion, the practice of including special-education students in mainstream classes is necessary. "Inclusion is politically correct and it's very expensive to be

fashionable," he said.

Velazquez said Andover hires more one-on-one teachers for special-education students than is probably necessary. The number of new special-education assistants grew from 65 this year to a request of 79 for 2004. The assistants help allow students with disabilities to stay in regular-education classrooms, which Velazquez said is a luxury. "It's ideal to mix. We're going to pay a premium to do that," he said.

Fellow School Committee candidates Gerry Gustus and John Roberts support the inclusion model. Gustus is a special-education parent and a special-education committee liaison. Roberts is the special-education parent advisory council president. They both said tampering with the assistants could prompt parents to move their kids out-of-district, which usually costs additional money.

"You want to put (special-education students) in the general population," said Gustus. He said Massachusetts tends to side with parents over school systems in special-education disputes and it's better to save the trouble. "Rather than write checks to lawyers, give it to the students," he said.

Roberts said removing students from the mainstream hurts



Candidate Louis Velazquez proposes less inclusion for SPED students

their self-esteem and their ability to socialize. "You live in a world of inclusion," he said.

Small class sizes and special-education assistants save students from being pushed out-of-district, he said.

Tuition for SPED students

Velazquez also believes Andover should focus on one or two disabilities and create a program in-house that would take care of students who currently attend private schools out of town.

Andover currently sends 85 students with disabilities to private schools for treatments and education at a cost of \$4.6 mil-

lion.

Velazquez said by collecting tuition from students from other towns, the program's costs could be covered. He suggested Andover could teach children with pervasive development disorder, from the autistic spectrum, as an example.

"I don't think you need to send a child to McLean for \$78,000," he said. McLean is a facility specializing in autistic spectrum disorders. Velazquez said Andover can offer comparable services. "A lot of these programs are self-sustaining because they'd like towns to think (towns) can't do it," he said.

Gustus and Roberts said changing the system will require an up-front investment. The savings they say, would come later. "I don't think there's a short-term solution. I think there's a long-term solution," said Roberts. Parents are often reluctant to change their children's education plan, especially if it's working for them, he said.

The average cost to educate a special-needs child outside the district is \$55,000, including transportation costs. The most expensive educational programs top \$100,000 per child.

Staff writer Meir Rinde contributed to this report.

Hop on the bus, Gus – with cash

BUS FEES

Continued from page 1

significant.

"That's a bill," she said.

North Andover has had a "pay-to-ride" system in place since 1991. North Andover charges \$230 for students to ride the bus if they live within state-set walkable distance guidelines to their school. North Andover program buses students who live more than two miles from school for free.

North Andover parents pay the fee directly to the bus company Laidlaw, said Paul Szymanski, North Andover schools business manager. Szymanski said if North Andover made a profit from the program, their state funding would be reduced as a result.

Szymanski administers the program himself. He said every year parents call him expecting if they pay for busing, the bus will pick up their children at their homes. "We can't do that. We're about as efficient and lean and mean as you can get," he said.

Back in Andover, Wood Hill

and High Plain Elementary parent Gerri Weis was undecided about whether she would pay the fee for a transportation program she describes as "terrible".

Weis currently picks up her middle-schooler several times a

week because his bus doesn't get him home in time to attend Hebrew school or his fee-based after-school music program.

"If it would save some program that I use, then I would support a fee for it," she said.

Parents' willingness to pay the fees could affect the sort of bus services Andover provides next year, said Tuttle. "Maybe it would be a real streamlined-down version," he said.

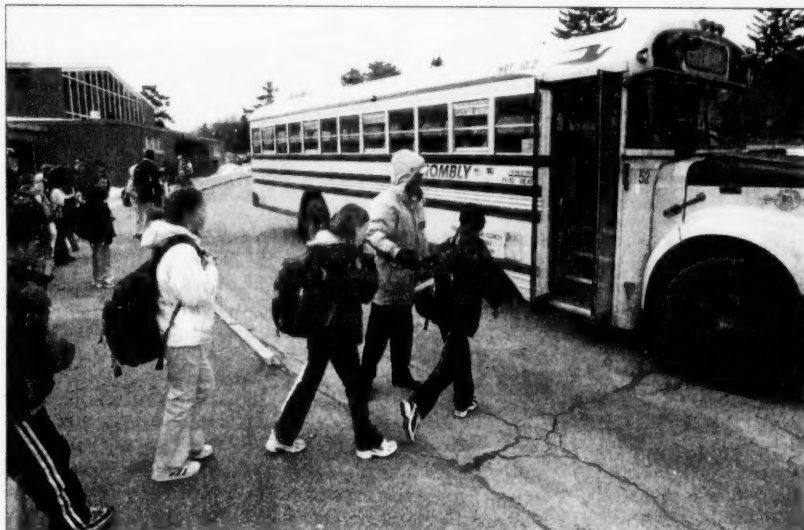


PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Assistant Principal Tony Covino watches West Middle School students board their bus in front of the school last Tuesday.

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Townspeople

TOWN TALK

Selectmen stepping over the border

A marching band.... followed by a float or two... followed by the Andover selectmen?

That's right. This year Lawrence will host its annual St. Patrick's Day parade complete with marching selectmen from Andover and North Andover.

"All five of us, plus Buzz, are going to march," says Selectman Mary Lyman. "This is a first for us."

Lyman believes Andover selectmen have never marched together in a St. Patrick's Day parade and this is their first invitation to Lawrence's event.

They're set to take off from South Union Street at 1 p.m. next Sunday, which is the day before St. Patrick's Day.

Lyman says Lawrence has always held its parade the Sunday prior to St. Patrick's Day.

After the parade, Lyman says, everyone's invited to the Claddagh Restaurant & Pub on Canal Street in Lawrence to continue the festivities, and there will be a party especially for children upstairs from the bar.

"We're all very excited to go," she says.

As far as the selectmen showing up in green, Lyman says, "That part hasn't been worked out."

— Andrea Gregory

Barber clips candidate comments

School Committee candidate Art Barber called speeches made by other candidates at a joint selectmen, School Committee and Finance Committee meeting this week "distasteful."

The meeting was the other boards' review of the superintendent's preliminary 2004 budget. Barber said the candidates took advantage of the meeting for political gain.

Fellow candidate Louis Velazquez seconded Barber's remarks. The two were the only candidates not to speak during the meeting and apparently came to their conclusions separately as they sat in separate sections during the meeting.

Incumbent Gerry Gustus responded to many of the other committees' questions. He later made closing remarks and mentioned the election when he joked that his support of increased parking fees at Andover High lost him the student vote. He closed his remarks of the night regarding schools' funding by saying, "I can't sleep at night."

Candidate Tony James also made a small speech asking the other boards if they believed the schools were receiving enough money.

John Roberts spoke to ask if the new changes in the budget could be posted online or made available as handouts.

— Ben Hellman

Fund set for Andover teen hurt in N.H. skiing accident

A fund has been established to help rehabilitate an Andover High School junior who suffered a serious head injury last month when he and another skier collided on the slopes.

Jason Durant, 17, was hurt while skiing at Cannon Mountain in New Hampshire on Feb. 21.

He was airlifted to Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H. Now, he is undergoing rehabilitation at Northeast Rehabilitation Hospital in Salem, N.H.

Family friend Ellen J. Travers of Andover helped to set up the fund as the Durant family faces "financial as well as emotional" worries as a result of the accident, she said.

"Jason has made and continues to make great strides in his recovery," she said. "But the process is going to be a long one."

She said the fund has been set up by Jason's friends, family and doctors. Contributions may be made to The Jason Durant Fund, c/o Banknorth Massachusetts, 61 Main St., Andover, 01810.

— Judy Wakefield

ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

100 Years Ago - 1903

Town payday next Monday.

Bicycles have appeared on the streets again.

Bluebirds and robins, spring's harbingers, are to be seen in sections of the town.

An athletic association has been formed at the Punchard High school for the purpose of promoting general interest in athletics. At a meeting held recently, officers were appointed to draw up a constitution.

William Schick Jr., formerly captain of the Phillips Academy track team, broke the world's record in the 70-yard invitation dash at the Columbia A.A. games in New York last Saturday. Schick's time was 7½ seconds.

A meeting of the directors of the Andover Press was held

on Monday evening.

Peter Connors has accepted the position of telegraph operator for the Western Union Telegraph Company at the Boston and Maine station. James C. Wittet is learning the tower system.

AVIS offers to the school children of Andover 10 cents for each 100 belts of the tent caterpillar brought to the schoolhouse and destroyed by the teacher. This offer will cease on the first day of May and may be withdrawn sooner if the season proves to be unusually early.

Carpenter's Union, No. 1298, will hold a meeting on Wednesday evening, March 25, at 8 o'clock. A full attendance is requested, as business of importance will be transacted.

Continued on page 12

ON THE SCENE

Andover welcomes Bourbon Street

Andona Society hosts local Mardi Gras party

MARDI GRAS DRESS was optional at the Andona Society's festive bash last Saturday, but those who played along looked positively ready for New Orleans.

Take Diana Cahill of Andover, whose purple boa, colorful eye mask and glitzy beads were complimented by a Mardi Gras tiara that featured a straw connected to it. When she blew into the straw, the decorations on the tiara shot up.

That signaled "party time," for sure, but partygoers like Cahill were eager to focus on the benefactors of this party — kids.

"With all these budget talks going on and all the cuts being talked about in schools, it's important to be able to help out the kids," said this two-year Andona Society member.

"I agree with that," chimed in Susan Walsh of Andover, another two-year Andona member who was at the party.

Cahill emphasized all proceeds from the party will benefit various programs for Andover youth. But the party atmosphere was just plain old fun, she added, and that's important, too.

About 145 people turned out for the Saturday night Mardi Gras party held at Andover Country Club and hosted by the local women's group, Andona.

While Mardi Gras' annual carnival in New Orleans ended four days before Andona's party, organizers brushed off the late date, saying it's still Mardi Gras season so bring on the festivities!

For \$60 couple or \$35 per person, the scene was Mardi Gras carnival all the way. Masks, boas, beads and balloons were plentiful as party decorators worked to make the club's Trumper Room seem like a stop on Bourbon Street. Guests feasted on hors d'oeuvres that included crabcakes and blackened swordfish along with the country club's popular martini mashed potatoes — a hit at last fall's Taste of Andover event. All the while, live jazz music filled the room.

"We do a new theme every year and this is the first time we've done Mardi Gras. It's great."

Graham said profits were still being counted at presstime, but Andona hoped to make between \$5,000 and \$10,000 from the event.

Andona is a well-known Andover institution, as the all-women group has been around for 51 years. About 200 women are members. Money raised by Andona pays for items such as after-school programs, a swimming program and some \$10,000 in scholarship awards given annually to high-school seniors in Andover. (Story, page 11)

Plus, Andona has pledged \$50,000 to help build an Andover youth center and has already given a \$20,000 check, Graham said.

At the Mardi Gras event, money was raised at a silent auction and a raffle table. Tickets were \$5 to take a chance on a four-day trip to New Orleans during Mardi Gras in 2004 and \$1,500 diamond earrings donated by Nazarian's on Main Street, the top raffle prizes. In addition, some \$3,500 worth of auction items lined tables and were given to the top bidders.

"Andover merchants do a great job of supporting us," Graham said.

Diana Berthiaume of Andover attended with her husband, Doug. She was dressed in grand style — complete with a mask and boa — while her husband opted for a more subtle approach to the party's dress code.

Diana Berthiaume emphasized that the social part of Andona is important to local women.

"It's a great way to meet other women in town and we have a great time at the parties," she said.



At the Andona Society's Mardi Gras celebration are, from left: Bettina Indaco, Suzanne Ingram and Arlene Latsey. Andona decided it was "Mardi Gras season," despite being after Ash Wednesday.



At left are Michael and Stacy Gillis; at right, Mike and Carol Crawford take their chances and put their raffle tickets into the basket. The evening is a major fund-raiser for the Andona Society.



ANDONA PRESIDENT SHEILA GRAHAM (AT RIGHT, HOLDING DIAMOND EARRINGS FOR THE SILENT AUCTION)



Diana and Doug Berthiaume of Andover at the Mardi Gras celebration.



Susan Walsh (left) and Diana Cahill, both of Andover, said that the Andona Society's programs for local children take on added importance with all of the budget cuts that are coming, and the recent cutbacks in school programs. Both of the women have been Andona Society members for two years.

Photos by Tim Jean

ENGAGEMENTS

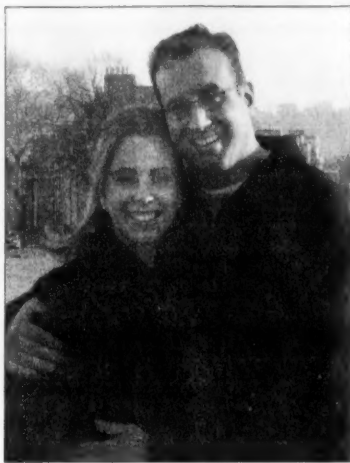
McCrensky-Harding Minkinen-Bourne Behun-Charland

Robert and Susan McCrensky of Mashpee announce the engagement of their daughter, Keri Anne, to Patrick Harding, son of Donald and Bonnie Harding of Andover.

Ms. McCrensky is a graduate of James Madison University and is currently enrolled in a postgraduate program at the University of London.

Mr. Harding is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts and is also enrolled in a postgraduate program at the University of London.

The couple plan a fall wedding.



Keri Anne McCrensky and Patrick Harding

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Minkinen of Andover announce the engagement of their daughter, Anna Minkinen, to Ted Bourne, son of Jim Bourne of New Albany, Ind. and Susan Fair of West Hartford, Conn.

Ms. Minkinen is a graduate of Brown University and is a Fulbright scholar. She received her MFA in film and media arts from Temple University. She is currently employed as a designer and animator at Stitch Motion Graphics, a commercial post-production house in New York City. She is also an active member of the independent film community, with a number of short films to her credit.

Mr. Bourne is graduate of the University of Chicago, and he received his MFA in Film and Media Arts from Temple University. He works as an editor for a number of documentary television series for such networks as The Learning Channel, National Geographic, and PBS in New York City.

The couple plan a May wedding in New York City.



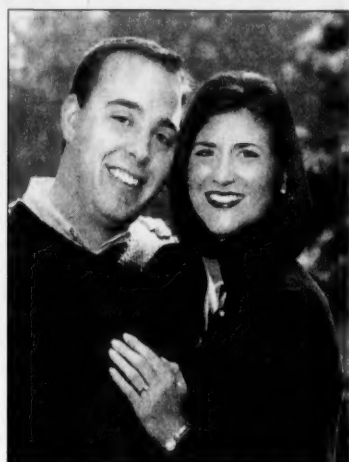
Ted Bourne and Anna Minkinen

Mr. and Mrs. John Behun of Raleigh, N.C. announce the engagement of their daughter, Jaclyn L. Behun, to David C. Charland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Charland of Andover.

Ms. Behun is a graduate of St. Mary's High School, Annapolis, Md., and received an accounting degree from Elon College and a masters degree from North Carolina State University. She is a CPA at Williams Overman Pierce in Raleigh.

Mr. Charland is a graduate of Andover High School and received a business degree at Elon College in North Carolina. He is a salesman for Colonial Supplemental Insurance Co.

The couple plan a June 28 wedding.



David C. Charland and Jaclyn L. Behun

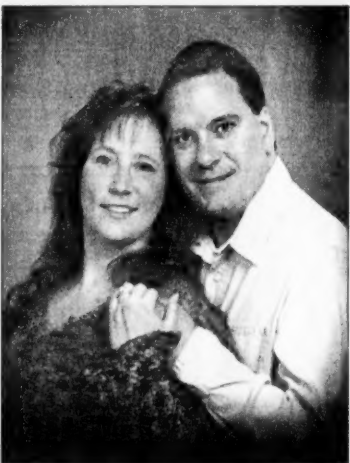
Markham-Lemieux

Linda E. Markham and Joseph C. Lemieux announce their engagement.

Ms. Markham, of Andover and formerly of Dracut, is a 1986 graduate of Dracut Senior High School and a 1991 graduate of the University of Massachusetts Lowell with a bachelor's degree in management information systems. She is employed by M.P. Phillips in North Reading. She is a volunteer coach for Dracut Recreation Sports and is a notary public. Her parents, Theresa and David Markham, live in Dracut and Lowell, Vt.

Mr. Lemieux, of Methuen, is a 1987 graduate of the Greater Lawrence Technical School with a certificate in machine shop. He is the sole-proprietor of Lemieux's Small Engine & Marine Repair in Methuen. His parents, Charlene and Richard Lemieux, live in Methuen and Port Charlotte, Fla.

The couple plan a June wedding and a honeymoon in Alaska.



Linda E. Markham and Joseph C. Lemieux

FOR SENIORS

By Pat Becker

Andover Senior Center

Here are some of the activities coming up at the Andover Senior Center:

Meet the Candidates Coffee: The community is invited to attend a candidate forum at the senior center Tuesday, March 18 at 9:30 a.m. Come and become familiar with the candidates and their positions prior to the town election.

Exercise Classes: The spring semester of exercise classes got underway this week. If you are interested in joining yoga, Tai Chi, women's strength training, aerobics, water workout, cardio conditioning or men's exercise, drop into the center and see about space availability.

Movie Matinee: On Monday, March 24 we will show the

movie *The Rookie* at 1 p.m. Dennis Quaid stars in this true story of Jim Morris, a father and baseball coach, who steps up to a challenge made by his high school team, and tries out for the major leagues. Reservations are not necessary - just drop in and join us.

Merrimack Repertory The-

ater: The next play in our subscription series with the Merrimack Repertory Theater will be *The Drawer Boy*. This is a funny, heartwarming, and ultimately heart-wrenching story about a young theater director. We have reserved seating for the 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, March 23. Tickets purchased through the

center are just \$17, and seating is limited.

St. Pat's Party: Last chance to come down and pick up a ticket for our St. Pat's Day celebration, which will be held tomorrow, March 14 at 1:30 p.m. Music, merriment, and refreshments will be on tap when we treat ourselves to "A Bit Of The Irish" with entertainer Kevin Farley.

Museum of Science Trip: Don't miss out on our upcoming trip to the Museum of Science for the fabulous exhibit "Treasures of Ancient Egypt." This exhibit features the largest selection of ancient artifacts ever loaned for public display outside of Egypt. Boston will be the second stop in North America, and the only venue in the Northeast. Trip cost is \$36, which includes bus transportation and tickets.

Nominations sought for 13th annual Preservation Awards

The month of May is traditionally designated as Historic Preservation Month in Massachusetts. In recognition of the historic preservation efforts of Andover residents and businesses, the Preservation Commission, the Andover Historical Society and the Ballardvale Historic District Commission will host the 13th Annual Historic Preservation Awards Ceremony on Thursday, May 22 at Memorial Hall Library.

Nominations from the public are encouraged and should be submitted to the Town Manager's Office no later than Sunday, March 30.

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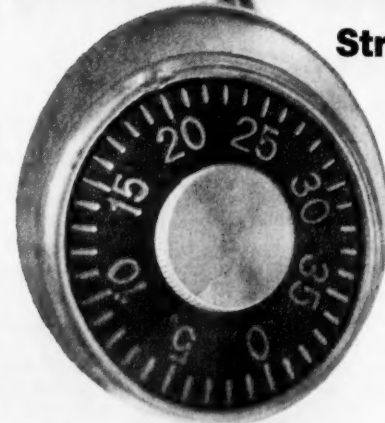
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100 Turnpike Street North Andover, MA

SOCIAL NOTEBOOK

This year the Andona Society will award five \$2,000 scholarships to graduating high school seniors whose official, permanent residence is Andover.

One of these awards will be designated as a 766 PAC scholarship. Seniors attending Andover High School, Greater Lawrence Technical School, or a private school are eligible to apply for the scholarships.

Applications are now available at the Andover High School guidance office.

Private school seniors can obtain applications from the Memorial Hall Library Web site www.mhl.org/temp/andona.htm; or by mailing a request to: Andona Society, P.O. Box 256, Andover, 01810, Attn: Lauren Silk.

AHS applications must be received in the school guidance office by Tuesday, April 15.

Private school and other postal applications must be postmarked no later than Tuesday, April 15.

The Andona Society, a non-profit charitable organization founded in 1952, raises money to benefit Andover youth programs. Andona has pledged \$50,000 to the Andover Youth Center over the course of four years. Last year, Andona contributions included: Destination Imagination Team, Windrush Farm, Special Olympics Swimming, Shakespeare in the Skate Park, AHS sports teams, AHS marching band, community service programs, aquarium and science museum passes for town residents, elementary and middle school cultural enrichment programs and after school programs at the middle schools. In addition, the organization provided financial assistance for forty-two Andover youth to attend camp last summer.

Contact Martha Hyslip at 978-688-9942.

The Mother Connection's Annual Craft Fair, scheduled for this Saturday, March 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Marland Place, will have representatives from Longaberger, Pampered Chef, Discovery Toys and more. For more information about attending the event or participating as a vendor, contact Paula at 978-474-0925.

Randy Springis, of Springis Traditional Woodworks in Amesbury, will teach Introduction to Hand Woodworking, Session III, at the Andover Historical Society April 5, 12, 19 and 26. Session III will cover mortise and tenon joints through instruction and a small project.

Registration is limited to six students per class and the cost of materials is included in the course fee. An afternoon class will be added if registrations exceed the six student limit.

Classes are open to all; children ages 12 and older are welcome to attend with an adult.

Starting in May, the Historical Society will run the entire Introduction to Hand Woodworking course again. The three-part course introduces students to the basics of hand woodworking. The first session covers tool sharpening and tuning, and basic wood joinery. The second session introduces students to hand planes through a small project. The third session covers the more intricate mortise and tenon joint through another project. Each session will run for four weeks; students can register for individual sessions. Additional specialty courses, covering such topics as veneering and hand carving, are currently being planned.

The Historical Society has offered a hand woodworking course since the mid-1980s, when master carpenter John Ross moved his collection of hand tools and equipment to the Blanchard Barn. Instructor Randy Springis continues to use Ross's collection to teach. The Introduction to Hand Woodworking gives students the rare opportunity to use original 19th century hand tools, organizers said.

Springis has worked on private commissions and for museums, including the Haverhill Historical Society and Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth, N.H. He specializes in 18th- and 19th-century designs, concentrating on the Neoclassical and Federal periods.

For further information, call 978-475-2236. The Andover Historical Society and Amos Blanchard House & Barn Museum are located at 97 Main St.

St. Robert Bellarmine Church and the American Red Cross are teaming up to help ensure that a safe and adequate blood supply is available when needed. Organizers ask that townspeople continue to support family, friends, neighbors and coworkers by donating blood at the Charlie Sheehan Memorial Blood Drive next Thursday, March 20, at St. Robert's Church Hall, 198 Haggetts Pond Road.

Donor hours are 2 to 8 p.m. Nearly 1,600 units of blood are needed each day to help those in need in the community. It is a challenge to collect enough blood to meet the needs of hospital patients year round, organizers said.

It takes only about an hour of one's time — and one small pinch — to become a hero to someone in need, they said.

Giving the "Gift of Life" is one way to help those in need. Every blood donation is an opportunity to help an accident victim, a surgical patient, or a child battling leukemia, to name a few.

Anyone 17 years of age or older, weighing 110 pounds or more and feeling in good health may be eligible to donate blood. Call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543) with any questions about donating blood, or visit the Web site: www.newengland-blood.org.

The Northeast Chapter of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society and the R. S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology will cosponsor a program on Tuesday, March 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Peabody Museum, at

the corner of Main and Phillips streets. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Steven Johnson, author of *Ninnouck, The Algonquian People of New England*, will speak and present slides about his book at the March meeting.

Johnson based his book, *Ninnouck*, on research he has done regarding local Algonquian Indians. His fascination with the archaeological record served to motivate him in his pursuit to relate the colonial written record during the historic period.

A high school teacher, Johnson began his quest for early Native American research when his high school biology teacher brought in a collection of Native American artifacts in the 1970s. Reading the records written by the colonists, who wrote down their observations, has been a lifelong study. He has worked tirelessly to filter out the ethnocentric bias from the English colonists' documentation. He has researched many documents, including old letters, court records, and contemporary recorded oral traditions.

The Northeast Chapter of the Massachusetts Archaeology Society meets the third Tuesday of the month, September through June. Membership is open to all those who are interested in furthering their study of archaeology and prehistoric and historic cultural history.

For additional information, call the Peabody Museum at 978-749-4490, or visit andover.edu/rspeabody.

The Friends of Memorial Hall Library have scheduled an evening with Dr. Robert Brooks on Wednesday, April 2, starting at 7 p.m.

Brooks will discuss factors that help children and adolescents deal more effectively with stress and pressure and become resilient. He will describe the importance of empathy in understanding and responding to children; and why some children, from birth, have a more difficult time developing a positive self-image than other children. Brooks will also share some insights into the importance of identifying and reinforcing each youngster's "islands of competence." He will offer specific strategies that parents and other adults can use to nurture self-esteem, self-discipline, responsibility, caring, hope, and resilience in children and adolescents. After his presentation, which will last 75-80 minutes, Brooks will take questions from the audience. More information regarding Brooks may be found at his Web site, www.drrobertbrooks.com.

LITTLE GIRLS, BIG HEARTS



Brownies from Troop 618 of the Spar and Spindle Council visited the Wingate Nursing Home on Valentine's Day. The first graders from Sanborn School gave flowers and sang some songs to some of the tenants.

USAF Band concert Sunday at Collins Center

At 1 p.m. Sunday, March 16 the United States Air Force National Guard Band of the Northeast will appear in concert at the Collins Center at Andover High School. The band will play a combination of military, patriotic and Irish tunes. Tickets are free, and up to four tickets may be obtained at the reception desk in the lobby of Town Offices, 36 Bartlett St. For more information, call John Doherty at 978-624-8218.

FIRST BIRTHDAYS

~ 2003 KEY DATES ~

ISSUE DATE	PHOTO DEADLINE
March 27	March 21
April 24	April 18
May 29	May 23
June 26	June 20
July 31	July 25
Aug. 28	Aug. 22
Sept. 25	Sept. 19
Oct. 30	Oct. 24
Nov. 27	Nov. 21
Dec. 25	Dec. 19

BABIES CELEBRATING THEIR FIRST BIRTHDAYS, affiliated with Andover, may have their pictures in the *Townsmen* free. They will normally appear in the issue dated the last Thursday of the month, in the month of baby's first birthday. All babies having a March 2003 first birthday will be published in the March 27 issue. All photos must be received by 5 p.m. Friday, March 21. Births are printed the first Thursday of the month.

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OBITUARIES

Edna M. Hemsworth

Was a member of
Free Christian Church

Edna M. (Anderson) Hemsworth, 85, of Amesbury and formerly of Andover, died Friday, March 7 at Anna Jaques Hospital in Newburyport.

She was born in Andover and was a member of Free Christian Church in Andover.

She was the widow of Victor W. Hemsworth.

Members of her family include her sons, William Hemsworth and his wife, Camille, of Salem, N.H. and Kenneth Hemsworth and his wife, Susan, of Methuen; a daughter, Laurie Knapp and her husband, Jay, of Amesbury; a brother, William Anderson and his wife, Ann, of Andover; and four grandchildren.

Arrangements were by Burke Funeral Home, 390 N. Main St., Andover. Burial was in Spring Grove Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Diabetes Association, Memorial Processing Center, P.O. Box 31160, Hartford, CT 06150-1160; or to the charity of one's choice.

Velma Webster

Avid golfer was
formerly of Andover

Velma (Phinney) Webster, 90, of North Andover and formerly of Andover, died Friday, March 7 at home.

Born in Malden, she lived in Andover before North Andover.

She was a member of the Bear Hill Country Club in Stoneham and was an avid

DEATHS

Fay Datz, 96
Rosemarie Doyle, 59
Edna M. Hemsworth, 85
Gayton Osgood, 66
Joseph A. Pappalardo, 81
Louise Solari, 93
Velma Webster, 90

DEATHS ELSEWHERE

DOYLE - Rosemarie (Wood) Doyle, 59, of Methuen, died Wednesday, March 5 at Lowell General Hospital. Members of her family include her mother, Dorothy (Blanchard) Wood of Andover.

OSGOOD - Gayton Osgood, 66, a lifelong resident of North Andover, died Saturday, March 8, at home. He was a graduate of Pike School in Andover and was well known for his interest in preserving and overseeing

old buildings and museums. He was a retired engineer and facilities manager at the Northeast Document Conservation Center in Andover.

PAPPALARDO - Joseph A. Pappalardo, 81, of Methuen, died Saturday, March 8 at Holy Family Hospital in Methuen. Mr. Pappalardo worked at Raytheon for more than 25 years as a radiologist until his retirement.

golfer.

She was a member of the First Methodist Church and Linden Methodist Church in Malden.

Members of her family include her husband, Harry Webster of North Andover; daughters, Marilyn Staffiere and her husband Donald of Amherst, N.H., and Janice Cuddy of Merrimack; nine grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. She was also mother of the late Stephen E. Hunter.

Memorial contributions may be made to Merrimack Valley Hospice, 360 Merrimack St., Lawrence, MA 01843.

Arrangements were by Burke Funeral Home, 390 N. Main St., Andover. Burial was in Spring Grove Cemetery, Andover.

Louise Solari

Family ran restaurant
in Boston for 40 years

Louise (Gravini) Solari, 93, of Andover, died Thursday, Feb. 27 at the MI Nursing & Restorative Center in Lawrence.

She was born and educated in Boston.

She and her husband founded and operated The Express Grill in three different locations in the North End of Boston for more than 40 years.

The family moved to Andover in 1951.

She was the widow of Anthony Solari.

Members of her family include son and daughter-in-law, James A. and Tina Solari of Andover, with whom she lived; a sister, Jenny Gravini of Everett; a grandson, Anthony Solari of Andover; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to MI Nursing & Restorative Center, 172 Lawrence St., Lawrence, MA 01841.

Arrangements were by Dewhirst & Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence St., Andover.

Fay Datz

Former resident
emigrated from Russia,
taught in Haverhill

Fay Datz, 96, of North Andover and formerly of Andover, died Thursday, March

6 at the Prescott House in North Andover.

She was born in Russia, and came to the Haverhill area in 1911.

Ms. Datz was educated in the Haverhill school system, and earned her teaching degree from Lowell Normal School.

Ms. Datz was a school teacher at the former School Street School in Haverhill.

Upon her retirement she was honored by the school committee for her many years of teaching. She also worked at the Atlantis Hotel and former Moorland Hotel in Gloucester.

Members of her family include her nephews, Gerald Silverman of Andover, Howard L. Silverman of Portsmouth, N.H., and Richard Brotner of Hartford, Conn.; a niece, Norma Freedman of North Adams; and several grandnieces and grand-nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to Heritage Activities Fund, 700 Chickering Road, North Andover, MA 01845.

Arrangements were by the H.L. Farmer & Sons Funeral Homes, Haverhill & Bradford.

ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

100 YEARS AGO - 1903

Continued from page 9

Charles W. Richardson has been circulating a petition in Ballardvale calling for the change in the status of the Ballardvale Post Office, from making it a substitution of Andover. In that way the Vale would be entitled to carrier's service. The Ballardvale people are on the whole inclined to favor the change.

75 Years Ago - 1928

An audience of more than five hundred assembled in Town Hall last Friday evening, listened for two hours with unabated interest as Matthew Burns, aspirator at the coming election for the office of Selectman, talked of taxes, valuations, town officers, and town departments. His language was picturesque and his impersonations of men prominent in Andover affairs were both dramatic and amusing.

The public schools have been closed this week for the annual mid-winter vacation. They will reopen next Monday morning at the usual hour.

Rev. Frank Makepeace, a former pastor of the Free Church in the (18)80s, recently celebrated his 80th birthday at his home in Hartford, Conn. Rev. Makepeace will be remembered by many of his former parishioners.

The contests for office at the coming election include that for selectman and assessor, for School Committee, member of the Board of Public Works, auditor and Tree Warden.

Approximately 80 percent of the 4,451 persons who are registered cast their votes on Monday.

Carrying every precinct and polling a total of 1,703 vote, almost double that of his nearest opponent, Andrew McTernan was reelected to his fourth term as selectman at the annual election of town officers held on Monday. In the hotly contested race for the two-year term as selectman to fill the unexpired term of the late Charles Bowman, Jeremiah J. Daly was the winner, leading his nearest opponent, Thaxter Eaton, by only 37 votes for the office of selectman and by only 10 for

that of assessor.

Several Brushfires: Tuesday morning, the fire department responded to an alarm from Box 64. The fire was near the home of Edward Hill on Carlisle Street, Shawshen Village, where a large area of grass was burnt over. At 4:00 Tuesday morning, the apparatus was called to extinguish a fire on the boardwalk near the Shawshen Village station. The department was also called at 4:20, Monday afternoon in answer to Box 4 to extinguish a brush fire in the rear of Brechin Terrace.

A well-attended union meeting in the interest of the Salvation Army was held at the South church on Sunday evening... A collection was taken amounting to a substantial sum and it is hoped that the quota of \$750 for 1928 may be reached.

During February, 4934 books were issued for home use at the Memorial Hall Library, and 702 at Ballardvale. The total use of the library for the first two months of 1928 is 11,292 books borrowed during 49 open days. This is an increase of 17 percent over use for the corresponding months in 1927.

weekly increase for town employees and the plan for improving the sewage system in Ballardvale. In the annual report prepared for the town meeting, the association in approving the wage boost says that the high cost of living over the past two years justifies this amount of increase. It also adds that it understands the library and school department will be excluded.

Miss Anne Birdsall has tendered her resignation to Town Clerk George H. Winslow because of her coming marriage, effective Mar. 27. Miss Birdsall has been the town clerk's assistant since 1941.

Superintendent Kenneth L. Sherman tendered his resignation to the school committee Monday night to enter private employment in Springfield.

A new patrolman for the Andover Police Department is expected to be appointed by the selectman next Monday night. The civil service commission has certified George A. Porter, Fredrick E. Welch and Duncan McE. Cairnie Jr., for appointment to the single vacancy that exists in the department. The salary is \$57 a week.

50 Years Ago - 1953

The Andover Taxpayers Association approves the \$5

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Commonwealth Of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate And Family Court Department ESSEX Division Docket No.

03P0457EP1
In the Estate of MARGARET HALE AKA MARGARET P. HALE Late of ANDOVER In the County of ESSEX
Date of Death February 3, 2003

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, a petition has been presented praying that a document purporting to be the last will of said decedent be proved and allowed, and that THOMAS F. CAFFEY of LAWRENCE in the County of ESSEX be appointed executor, named in the will to serve without surety.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT SALEM, ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON (10:00 AM) ON APRIL 14, 2003.

In addition you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition, stating the specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within thirty (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

WITNESS, HON. JOHN C. STEVENS, III ESQUIRE, First Justice of said Court at SALEM this day, March 10, 2003.
Pamela Casey O'Brien Register of Probate Court March 13, 2003

Commonwealth Of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate And Family Court Department ESSEX Division Docket No.

03P0316EP1
In the Estate of RUTH E. WESTCOTT Late of ANDOVER In the County of ESSEX
Date of Death January 2, 2003

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, a petition has been presented praying that a document purporting to be the last will of said decedent be proved and allowed, and that KEVIN T. KELLY of HAVERHILL in the County of ESSEX and RICHARD G. KELLY of NORWOOD in the County of NORFOLK be appointed executors, named in the will to serve without surety.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT SALEM, ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE

TEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT SALEM, ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON (10:00 AM) ON MARCH 31, 2003.

In addition you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition, stating the specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within thirty (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

WITNESS, HON. JOHN C. STEVENS, III ESQUIRE, First Justice of said Court at SALEM this day, February 27, 2003.
Pamela Casey O'Brien Register of Probate Court March 13, 2003

Commonwealth Of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate And Family Court Department ESSEX Division Docket No.

03P0295AD1
In the ESTATE OF DAVID A. PARKS AKA DAVID ARTHUR PARKS Late of ANDOVER In the County of ESSEX
Date of Death December 23, 2002

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATRIX
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, a petition has been presented praying that BEVERLY FLAHERTY of PEABODY in the County of ESSEX, or some other suitable person, be appointed administratrix of said estate to serve without surety.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT SALEM, ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON (10:00 AM) ON MARCH 31, 2003.
WITNESS, HON. JOHN C. STEVENS, III ESQUIRE, First Justice of said Court, this day, February 27, 2003.
Pamela Casey O'Brien Register of Probate Court March 13, 2003

Commonwealth Of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate And Family Court Department ESSEX Division Docket No.

02P2944EP1
In the Estate of THOMAS J. KELLY SR Late of ANDOVER In the County of ESSEX
Date of Death September 28, 2002

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, a petition has been presented praying that a document purporting to be the last will of said decedent be proved and allowed, and that

KEVIN T. KELLY of HAVERHILL in the County of ESSEX and RICHARD G. KELLY of NORWOOD in the County of NORFOLK be appointed executors, named in the will to serve without surety.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT SALEM, ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE

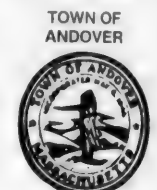
FORENOON (10:00 AM) ON APRIL 14, 2003.

FORENOON (10:00 AM) ON APRIL 14, 2003.

In addition you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition, stating the specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within thirty (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

WITNESS, HON. JOHN C. STEVENS, III ESQUIRE, First Justice of said Court at SALEM this day, March 5, 2003.

Pamela Casey O'Brien Register of Probate Court March 13, 2003



PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on Monday, March 17, 2003 in the Third Floor Conference Room at the Andover Town Offices, 36 Bartlett Street, Andover, Massachusetts at 7:30 P.M. to discuss an application made by The Chateau Restaurant of Andover, Inc. d/b/a The Chateau Restaurant, 195 School Street, Waltham, MA to the State Lottery Commission for a Keno License to be held at The Chateau Restaurant, River Road.

By Order of the Board of Selectmen
Randall L. Hanson
Town Clerk
March 13, 2003

Commonwealth Of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate And Family Court Department ESSEX Division Docket No.

03P0509EP1
In the Estate of ANNETTE M. DOYLE Late of ANDOVER In the County of ESSEX
Date of Death February 4, 2003

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, a petition has been presented praying that a document purporting to be the last will of said decedent be proved and allowed, and that RITA S. MARTIN of ANDOVER in the County of ESSEX be appointed executrix named in the will to serve without surety.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT SALEM, ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON (10:00 AM) ON APRIL 14, 2003.

In addition you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition, stating the specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within thirty (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

WITNESS, HON. JOHN C. STEVENS, III ESQUIRE, First Justice of said Court at SALEM this day, March 10, 2003.

Pamela Casey O'Brien Register of Probate Court March 13, 2003

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Education

League of Women Voters' questionnaire to the candidates

THE ANDOVER/NORTH ANDOVER LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS asked the five School Committee candidates to answer one question, limiting their response to 300 words. Some candidates used longer responses, but their responses follow, edited for Townsman style. The question was: The executive summary of the school superintendent's preliminary 2004 budget states that the three most important objectives in the Andover school system are to:

- keep class size within the mid-

- range of the School Committee policy at the elementary schools
- maintain the middle-school team concept, and
- provide course offerings to ensure 7.5 credits yearly for all high-school students.

However, none of these objectives can be met within the FY 04 budget due to budget constraints. Which of these objectives is most important to you, why, and what are you willing to do personally to achieve it?

Election Day is Tuesday, March 25; vote at Andover High

The annual town election will take place Tuesday, March 25. All precincts will be voting at the Andover High School Field House on Shawsheen Road from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. The entrance to the polling place is behind the field house. Parking will be available during the day for voters in the parking lot behind the field house.

Elected offices on the ballot are the following:

- Moderator, one for one year;
- Selectman, two for three years;
- School Committee member, two for three years;
- Andover Housing Authority member, one for five years;

Greater Lawrence Technical School District Committee, one for three years; and Punched Free School Trustees, five for three years.

Absentee voter applications for the town election must be filed with the town clerk's office no later than noon on Monday, March 24.

A voter shuttle bus will run from the Andover Senior Center to Andover High School every 40 minutes starting at 8 a.m. A bus will return every 40 minutes starting at 8:15 a.m.

To access the list of candidates that will be on the 2003 town election ballot and to get precinct information, check the town's Web site at www.town.andover.ma.us, and look for "Town Clerk's Upcoming Events."

SCHOOL COMMITTEE CANDIDATES

5 candidates for 2 School Committee seats state budget priorities

Candidate:
John Roberts
Address: 8 Spring Grove Road
Age: 53
Children in schools: two sons, 11th and 12th grade, at Andover High.



John Roberts

Candidate:
Tony James
Address: 15 Wethersfield Drive
Age: 61
Children in schools: Two sons: 8th grade at Doherty, 10th grade at Andover High.



Tony James

Candidate:
Gerry Gustus
Address: 5 Fern Road
Age: 47
Children in schools: two children at South Elementary: daughter, 2nd grade, son 4th grade.



Gerry Gustus (Incumbent)

Candidate:
Art Barber
Address: 3 Sparta Way
Age: 51
Children in schools: two daughters, 9th and 11th grade at the high school. Wife Connie Barber is a kindergarten teacher at South Elementary.



Art Barber

Candidate:
Louis Velazquez
Address: 12 Bridle Path Road
Age: 41
Children in schools: 7th grade daughter at West Middle and a son in preschool.



Louis Velazquez

WHILE IT IS difficult to pick one topic of the three proposed as most important, I believe that the most significant impact to our system is the inability to provide 7.5 credits to our high-school students.

Andover has a terrific reputation with the network of selective colleges in the Northeast due in large part to the quality and quantity of course offerings at the high school. We are already experiencing overcrowding at the high school, with larger class sizes expected to be coming from the middle schools. With the cuts proposed currently and a larger student body, our high-school students will not be able to take the additional courses that will give them the credits and the diversity to stand out academically in the college-selection process. College-admission officers give extra credit to graduates of schools that offer excellent academic programs and also look at the student's experiences in non-core areas, which would most likely be reduced with these cuts.

While elementary class sizes and middle-school team concepts are proven concepts, they are less measurable than high-school credits and college admissions. We need to find a way to restore teachers and classes available at the high-school level as our first priority should we find more revenue available during this budget process.

I still contend that the technology budget should be thoroughly compared against the cost to our students in losing teachers in the classrooms.

**MORE CANDIDATE
RESPONSES:
PAGE 15**

THESE OBJECTIVES form a chain linking the three levels of our school system to ensure that we are providing a high-quality education to our students. I believe it is entirely inappropriate to suggest that one of these objectives is more important than another, because each of them is critical at different stages of our students' school careers.

In FY04, two-thirds of the average elementary classes are projected to be at or below the policy mid-point of 25, with the average class size at 24. The issue is, however, the uneven distribution across the district which results in some larger classes at certain schools. I suggest that we should explore options for ensuring that all classes are below the policy mid-point.

The middle-school team concept has been largely preserved. The core curriculum will continue to be taught, albeit at the expense of certain integrated arts subjects. I will resist any further erosion of support for the programs and personnel in our middle schools, as it would severely compromise the team concept and deprive our students of the optimal learning environment in their adolescent years.

Next year, it is probable that almost three-fourths of our high-school students will take less than 7.5 course credits, and their unproductive time in study halls will double. This is devastating for students who are facing ever-increasing levels of competition to gain acceptance to good colleges. It is imperative that we spend the next few months bringing together all of the stakeholders - students, parents, teachers, and administrators - to work urgently and creatively to determine what changes need to be made to restore the 7.5 academic and elective course credits each year for our high-school students. I am eager to actively participate in the process to make this happen.

ALTHOUGH three objectives are equally important to me, the why being every child in the system deserves equal consideration.

As to the levels themselves, here are my perceptions as to what this budget does and does not accomplish.

Elementary - Class sizes will be maintained within the mid-range, though they went up markedly in the FY03 budget and I would not characterize them as "small." What the FY04 budget does to the elementary schools this year is halve the physical-education offering, and decimate our method of delivering the health curriculum.

Middle School - The middle-school concept is retained, but the integrated arts offerings are skeletons of what we should be providing. Some students will have no music instruction or industrial arts at all. Unless we rescue integrated arts, I have great fear for our continuing the middle-school concept in the near future.

High School - This is where the budget most fails. The fact that more than 50-percent of the students will be unable to take 7.5 credits, and some perhaps less than 7.0 is deplorable. Principal Peter Anderson is trying to think up ways to keep students OUT of the building, while keeping them educationally engaged. Our students will suffer at college-admission offices, and how we as a community can allow it, I do not know. It is shameful and it is wrong.

What I will do about it is propose a budget figure higher than what the town manager is proposing. I hope my fellow committee members join me. If it cannot be worked out beforehand, then the School Committee should submit its own number to Town Meeting. After three budget workshops, we all now know what sort of educational program the town manager's budget number will provide. I think the people of Andover should have a direct say in whether they agree with that. To the idea that this is divisive, I can only say I have never found democracy to be divisive and I am willing to work within whatever Town Meeting decides.

I RESPECTFULLY note that I do not agree with the premise that none of the superintendent's three objectives can be met in FY04 due to budget constraints. I do not believe the three objectives are mutually exclusive. It isn't healthy to pit the elementary schools versus the middle schools versus the high school. Andover can still maintain a high quality education for our youth if reasonable cuts are made at all levels, particularly in non-core areas.

Having said that, I believe in answering questions directly, so I will state that keeping class size within the mid-range of the stated policy would be my top objective. Research has consistently proven the benefits of smaller class size, especially at the elementary level. Smaller classes can result in: (1) pupils receiving more individualized attention and instruction; (2) increased student participation; (3) fewer discipline problems and disturbances; and (4) in some cases, reduced referrals to special-education programs. Furthermore, research indicates those students who attended smaller classes in the elementary level continue to achieve at higher levels into high school and beyond.

Simply stated, class size is crucial. If students don't get a strong fundamental education at the elementary level, then the superintendent's other two objectives lose some of their importance. Students are not going to be turned away by their college of choice if they have earned the required 26 credits, have good grades and competitive SAT scores.

What would I do to achieve this objective? I have examined the budget and attended the budget forums, and I believe cuts can be made in other areas. For example, the budget in the athletic director's office is increasing by more than \$22,000. This is a non-academic administrative position. I challenge the notion the priorities can't be met, and am looking at the budget for cuts in non-core, non-academic areas. There is no denying that every level of the system will feel the pinch of budgetary constraints, but I believe that fiscal responsibility and quality education can go hand in hand.

IN RESPONSE to the question, a 300-word response is a challenge. Each of the stated objectives is important and worthy of discussion. Smaller class size allows for greater teacher attention per pupil. Developmentally, smaller class size in the younger grades allows for greater warmth and intimacy, and this makes school an inviting and desirable place to a child. The middle-school team concept allows for a large school population to function more like multiple smaller schools.

The question of how many high-school credits ought to be offered to every student in the course of four years of high school is perhaps most worthy of further discussion. High school prepares an adolescent to go to the next step, whether it is college or the workplace as young adults. Allowing high-school students to get as much preparation as a full course load could afford them seems to be the most worthy of these objectives. What do the numbers show? Some high-school seniors prefer to coast towards graduation once they satisfy state requirements and get into college, so perhaps these students will not want to take 7.5 credits during their senior year. Other students may want to academically diesel their way through elective course offerings.

As an optimist and a problem solver, I would seek to find off-campus internships, apprenticeships, and educationally sound alternatives that would enrich the student's repertoire of talents and skills and make them competitive after high school. Most of these electives would not likely be within the scope of what schools usually offer, so they would likely be fee-based. Some of these off-campus electives might include foreign language exchange programs, a semester at sea with Outward Bound, college courses in the metropolitan Boston area or elsewhere, or independent study with a school-approved mentor in the community. I am not suggesting lax, unstructured vacations, but rather an assortment of properly investigated options with academic rigor.

Read Across Andover event is tonight

The Andover Education Association announced that the Cat in the Hat will finally visit Andover to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday and the joy of reading. Andover's rescheduled "Read Across America" adventure into the world of reading will be held tonight, Thursday, March 13 from 6:15 to 8 at West Middle School.

The event was postponed after the snowstorm last Thursday. For more information, call Kerry Costello at 978-623-8629.

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ON CAMPUS

Courtney Thistle of 17 Orchard Crossing has been named to the dean's list of the University of Rhode Island for achieving a high academic standard in the 2002 fall semester.

Eligibility for the dean's list requires a student to carry 12 or more credits in a particular semester and achieve a 3.3 quality point average, based on the letter grades received during the term.

Abby McKain of Andover has been selected to serve with six other teens from across the country on the 2003 National 4-H Congress Design Team.

Congress coordinator Susan Stewart wrote: "Congratulations, you have been selected to be a member of the 2003 Nation 4-H Congress Design Team. The team is made up of the nation's most outstanding 4-H member, 4-H volunteers and Extension staff. You will have the opportunity to help shape this ever-evolving opportunity for 4-H members from across the nation."

McKain will be working with 4-Hers from Michigan, Mississippi, Louisiana, Indiana, Texas and Montana.

McKain is president of the Middlesex County 4-H Dairy Goat Club and former treasurer.

Since 1991, her club has donated a decorated Christmas tree, full of treats and goodies, to the Fernald School for the Mentally Challenged. McKain was recipient of the "Top Showman of the New England" at the Big E in 2001 and "Top Fitter" in 2000. Her attendance at the State 4-H Teen Leadership Institute last year is just an example, of many, of her commitment to self-improvement. In 2000 and 2002, McKain represented her dance company at an on-stage performance at the Magic Kingdom and Epcot, of Disney World.

Diana Vining, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gary Vining of 9 Bayberry Lane, achieved a 4.0 average in her first semester at University of Pennsylvania.

She graduated from Andover High School in 2002.

North Shore Community College announced that the following Andover residents were dean's list students for the fall 2002 semester.

Students and their majors are as follows: **Susan A. Laracy**,

Students from Andover are among the approximately 140,000 students included in the 25th annual edition of **The National Dean's List, 2001-02**.

Published by Educational Communications Inc., it is described by the company as the largest recognition program and publication in the nation honoring high achieving college students.

Students are selected for this honor by their college deans, registrars or honor society advisers and must be in the upper 10 percent of their class, on their school's dean's list, or have earned a comparable honor.

Selected local students (and their colleges) include:

Jacqueline Bloom
Heidi Carroll
Virginia A. Carroll
Sarah Ferranti
Brian Gosselin
Justin T. Le Cam
Maureen Lothrop
Megumi Matsuki
Katie A. McKain
Jacqueline M. Morando
Anne Muzere
Caitlin Neri
Matthew J. Sheehan
Alex Shkolnik
Thomas M. Tanin
Jessica S. Taylor
Jeff Vallera
Kellie Wallace
Michael Wallace

UMass Amherst
UMass Lowell
Hesser College
Tufts University
Fairfield University
Providence College
Providence College
Vassar College
Purdue University
Westfield State College
UMass Amherst
Georgetown University
Westfield State College
Carnegie Mellon University
UMass Lowell
Roger Williams University
Bentley College
College of the Holy Cross
UMass Lowell

nutritional science and diet tech: **Rachel K. Levine**, professional grooming: **Terese C. O'Connell**, quick entry non-matriculated: **Edward J. Starr**, telecommunications tech: and **Jong Yoon**, liberal arts.

Rachel B. Charron, a first year pre-med student at Syracuse University, N.Y., was recently named to the dean's list for the 2002 fall semester.

She is the daughter of Phillip and Linda Charron of 2 Sandalwood Lane.

Johnson and Wales University in Providence, R.I. has announced the names of its students who have been named to the dean's list for the fall term ending in November.

Jonathan Toland of 45 Bartlet St. was named to the honors list. To receive dean's list commendation, students must earn a cumulative grade point average of 3.4 or above.

Colby College has announced that **Alexis A. Caselle**, **Zachary E. Goldman**, **Karli A. Jaffe**, **Troy K. Lieberman** and **Stephanie L. Pierce**, all of Andover, were named to the dean's list for outstanding academic achievement during the fall semester of the

2002-03 school year.

To make the dean's list, a grade point average of at least 3.2 in the previous semester is required for upperclassmen, and a grade point average of at least 3.0 in the previous semester is required for first-year students.

Alexis A. Caselle, a member of the class of 2004, is the daughter of Paul and Adrienne Caselle of Andover. Her majors are international studies and economics. She is a graduate of Andover High School.

Zachary E. Goldman, a member of the class of 2006, is the son of Bruce and Margo Goldman of Andover. He is a graduate of Andover High School.

Karli A. Jaffe, a member of the class of 2003, is the daughter of Frederick Jaffe and Myrna Zetlan, both of Andover. Her major is psychology and her minors are Jewish studies and theater and dance. She is a graduate of Andover High School.

Troy K. Lieberman, a member of the class of 2006, is the son of Lyle and Kim Lieberman of Andover. He is a graduate of Andover High School.

Stephanie L. Pierce, a member of the class of 2005, is the daughter of Roger and Judith

Pierce of Andover. Her major is sociology. She is a graduate of Andover High School.

Eleven interns joined Eric Mower and Associates' (EMA) Syracuse office fall 2002 internship program, which they described as offering "more than your ordinary internship." They individually worked in several of EMA's marketing disciplines in Syracuse, N.Y. but also came together to work on two integrated projects for the first time in the agency's intern program. Interns, including **Emily Yurko** of Andover, is dually enrolled in Syracuse University's S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications and the School of Management, with both creative advertising and finance majors.

She is a member of the honor society and Syracuse University's Ad Club and is a dean's list student.

Recently, one of Essex County Composite Squadron's leaders, **Rebecca Langlais**, the first sergeant of the Civil Air Patrol squadron, received an award from the Aerospace Education Foundation, a certificate of accomplishment medal and ribbon that she will be entitled

to wear on her uniform.

Langlais is interested in aerospace education, having attended two Space Camps in Huntsville, Ala. before joining CAP. A member of CAP for only two years, Langlais quickly rose through the cadet ranks, passing all of her achievement exams with impressive grades, a spokesperson said. Her most recent accomplishment has been to become an officer by passing her General Billy Mitchell achievement test, a 100-question examination of the past two years of achievements in leadership and aerospace education.

Langlais will soon be presented the epaulets marking her as an officer. She will then be cadet/second lieutenant Langlais. She attends Andover High School, where she is a member of the track team.

Four members of Northern Essex Community College's

Mathematics Department recently returned from the American Mathematical Association of Two Year Colleges' 28th Annual Conference in Phoenix, Ariz., where they presented the goals and activities of the National Science Foundation MAST Project at the Conference Poster Session.

Catherine Pirri of Andover, **Maureen Kelley** of North Andover, **Stephen Proietti** of Sandown, N.H. and **Paulette Redmond** of Salem, N.H., was one of four math professors at NECC who presented an overview of the work they have done in creating MAST (Math Application Shaping Tomorrow), a program designed to revitalize the mathematics curriculum with work-based experiences.

This math team worked under a \$250,000, three-year grant, that NECC received from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to work with business and industry, local high schools, and four-year colleges and universities to help connect classrooms across the region with the math skills used in business. The point is to help show students that math is a critical part of their lives.



Rebecca Langlais

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

Here's what's for lunch in the Andover public schools next week, March 17-21:

Elementary schools

Monday: Southwestern chicken potato wrap, pizza stick with soft pretzel, hot dog on a roll, cranberry sauce, carrots and milk. Basketball lucky tray give away.

Tuesday: Two taco Tuesday, max pizza, waffles with ham and syrup, green beans, pineapple, milk and sugar cookie.

Wednesday: Baked stuffed shells, pizza ring with pizza sauce, nachos with taco, meat and cheese, blueberries, wax beans and milk.

Thursday: Chicken McSchool, mozzarella sticks, french toast with sausage, peas, peaches and milk.

Friday: Rib-b-que dippers, bakery pizza, baked chicken nuggets, potato puffs, strawberries and milk.

Doherty Middle School

Monday: Southwestern chicken wrap, baked chicken nuggets, nachos with taco, meat and cheese sauce, peas, peaches and milk.

Tuesday: Two taco Tuesday, mozzarella sticks with marinara sauce, beef-and-cheese sub, corn, strawberries, milk and sugar cookie.

Wednesday: Baked stuffed shells, two hot dogs, bakery pizza, green beans, pineapple and milk.

Thursday: Oven baked chicken, cheeseburger with chips, chicken meschool, mashed potato, cranberry sauce and milk.

Friday: Rib-b-que dippers with rice, baked chicken nuggets, bakery pizza, carrots, mixed fruit and milk.

Secondary schools

Monday: Southwestern chicken wrap, chicken, broccoli and ziti, bakery pizza, peas, peaches and milk.

Tuesday: Two taco Tuesday, penne with meat sauce, stuffed crust pizza, corn, strawberries, milk and sugar cookie.

Wednesday: Chicken fajita, spaghetti ilio olio, bakery pizza, green beans, pineapple and milk.

Thursday: Oven baked chicken, American chop suey, stuffed crust pizza, mashed potato, cranberry sauce and milk.

Friday: Beef-and-cheese sub, spaghetti and meatballs, bakery pizza, carrots, mixed fruit and milk.

Menus subject to change. Lunch prices are: Elementary student \$1.50; adult \$2.25. Secondary student \$1.75 or \$2.50; adult \$2.50 or \$3.25.

Questions? Call Karen Pappa at 978-623-8623.

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Radon Diagnostic Services

From left: Fred Ghilarducci, Keith Sanzo, and Dick Rammacher

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Owner **Dick Rammacher**, who has more than 30 years of experience in the field of radioactive materials, says that more than 1/3 of homes in the area have radon levels higher than EPA guidelines allow. He and his experienced crew can install affordable remediation systems that permanently reduce radon concentrations to safe levels.

Since Radon is only detectable by the proper testing process, the problem usually remains dangerously undiscovered until the house is sold, because the home inspection process generally includes radon testing. Dick advises that homeowners should do radon testing before deciding to sell a home.

More than 1800 high radon homes throughout eastern Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire are now safe thanks to the experienced staff at **Radon Diagnostic Services**. More than a third of those homes are in the Andovers.

In most situations, the small, energy efficient and inconspicuous remediation system effectively reduces radon levels well over 90 percent.

The crew at **Radon Diagnostic Services** reminds you that the EPA recommends that you test for radon levels at least every two years if you have a remediation system in place, and that you should check frequently to make sure that your system is working properly.

Dick will be more than happy to answer any questions that you may have about radon testing and remediation and can be reached at 978-475-1977.

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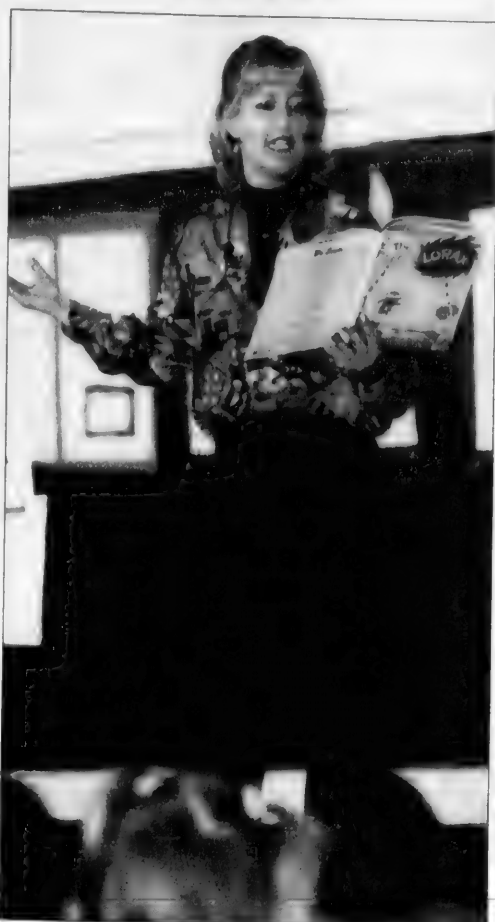
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Nicolette Heavey, known as "the story weaver," came to Shawsheen School as part of Read Across America Day last Friday. She read *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss.

PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Town and school

TECH CONSOLIDATION

Continued from page 5

than her town-side counterparts. "They've been less than enthusiastic," she said.

Selectman Brian Major said the selectmen have not talked as a body about such a move, but he supported discussing the matter with an eye to full consolidation for the 2005 budget year. "It's a union that would make a lot of sense," said Major.

Though a "full-blown plan" might not be possible for next year, Major said that small steps could be made this year to prepare for such a change.

Major said the combination may or may not save the town money, but it would allow better communication across departments. Currently, one department could buy software that wouldn't be compatible with another department's, he said.

Bach said at the budget hearing this week that she supports consolidating services.

She also called the schools business-office technology a model for such cooperative work with the town. She said the schools also share with the town library system.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE CANDIDATES

Contracts: What would they change?

By Ben Hellman

Five candidates are running for two open School Committee seats this month. One incumbent, Gerry Gustus and four newcomers, John Roberts, Art Barber, Louis

Velazquez and Tony James are running for the two seats. The election is Tuesday, March 25.

Given that school-employees' contracts make up the bulk of the

school department's budget, candidates were asked what, if anything, they would do differently when they are involved with school contract negotiations.

Art Barber: Wouldn't vote as wife is teacher; says teachers are not overpaid

Art Barber says teachers should receive salary increases that take inflation and cost-of-living into account. Because he doesn't know the details of the current contract, he says he cannot get into specifics of changes he might make in future negotiations.

Barber says town teachers are not overpaid and that Andover has to remain competitive with other school systems if it doesn't want to lose teachers. He says salary numbers are not as big as

they may look. "The only reason the teacher's salaries look to be high in the budget is because there are so many of them. They are not highly paid people," he said.

Barber thinks the town needs to look into administrative and non-teaching positions at the schools for cost savings. "If you have an individual on the payroll at the school department and they do not have teaching responsibilities, I think their positions have to be looked at.

How do I define being looked at? What do they do, how are they being compensated and is that the best route that we should be taking?"

Another factor that could effect teacher negotiations for Barber is that his wife, Connie Barber is a kindergarten teacher at South Elementary. Barber says he has consulted with The Massachusetts Ethics Commission, his own counsel and with the town manager regarding restrictions he might face in making decisions that would affect his wife's salary.

Barber says he could debate the issues, but would not vote unless he and his wife decided to donate the amount of the pay increase to the town. "I might leave the room," said Barber.

Barber says having a wife who is a teacher in town provides him with "wonderful insight" into what's going on in the schools. Concerning any matters that might be conflicts of interest, Barber said "I know we would act ethically." If he is elected, Barber said he would look into the matter more with town counsel.

Tony James: Uncomfortable talking

Tony James said any comments he could make about previous teacher negotiations would be speculation, so he didn't want to speak on the issue. "I'm uncomfortable suggesting what changes they should make," he said.

James believes the schools should focus elsewhere for savings. "My general sense is that our teachers are not overcompensated," he said. By looking at the way other school systems operate, Andover could find inefficiencies in its own system, he said.

"It's imperative that we identify inefficiencies within our system, to be able to do more with less," he said.

James couldn't mention specific inefficiencies, and said that talking about them could hurt current or future contract negotiations. "I suspect there are discussions going on. I don't know of any specifically, but I bet there are and I think it's dangerous to put baseless speculation out there," he said.

James supports interest-based bargaining, which means starting with common goals instead of leaping into disagreements. The School Committee used interest-based bargaining during its last teacher-contract negotiation.

Gerry Gustus: Town must eye benefits

As an incumbent, Gerry Gustus was involved with negotiating and approving the last teacher contract, and he called it "very successful." He said he expects future negotiations will go the same way.

He said the School Committee will try to keep costs down and shuffle money from one area of the teachers' contract to another. "Things in the contract that are there but aren't valued by the teachers (we see if we can) move that funding over to things they do value. That's one of the things we did in the last contract," said Gustus.

Gustus said the whole town

needs to look at how it handles health benefits, but it shouldn't be up to the School Committee to make the move alone.

"That's not for the School Committee to drive that into the teachers' contract. That's a whole town kind of a thing," said Gustus. He doesn't expect any of the town's unions to be receptive to the move.

Gustus said interest-based bargaining - starting negotiations with common goals - was a cordial, collaborative process. "As opposed to the confrontational bargaining that the town manager went through with the firefighters," he said.

John Roberts: Compare to market

Officials who deal with future teacher negotiations must look at the going market for teacher salaries and consider the economy at the time, said John Roberts. "I believe they have had reasonably generous increases over the last two contract negotiations. And although you want to retain good teachers, I think you have to compare it to the market in general as opposed to comparing it to other salaries in the town," he said.

Roberts said the economy should drive teacher negotiations. "The economy certainly weighs heavily on all of us. If we aren't reviewing comparisons

around comparable communities, which is what they've done in the past, that's what we should be doing," he said.

As a Vision 21 Committee member, Roberts has gotten input from residents on why they moved to Andover.

"In almost every group, education ranks very high," said Roberts. He said people never mention fire, police or public works as the reason why they moved to Andover.

"There are people who moved here because we have a fabulous school system and we still need to continue to fight to maintain that," he said.

Louis Velazquez: Don't low-ball

It is important for Andover to be competitive with other towns and to pay teachers fairly, said Louis Velazquez. He said he isn't familiar with the figures in the current contract, so he can't discuss it specifically.

Velazquez said he supports the teachers getting what they deserve.

"I think people should get what they're due and get what they're worth. We shouldn't low-ball the teachers. We should respect them and pay them what they're worth - commensurate with other communities," he said.

The school unions and town need to take the economy into consideration, said Velazquez. "This is not a time for contract negotiations to be aggressive. With the state of the national and state economy, there are reasons for both sides of the table to be gentle with each other and think of the greater whole," he said.

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Sue Cleveland
Founded in 1999 by Sue Cleveland, Annie's Nannies is a locally based childcare agency dedicated to providing Andover area families with quality in-home childcare. Sue Cleveland's background includes working as a nanny while she attended Merrimack College. After graduating and learning of the growing demand in this area for quality childcare, Sue recognized that there was a need for a local agency that could help parents struggling with the often stressful process of finding a nanny. Through her established client base, Sue has learned that families value the personalized approach her agency provides. This is reflected in her personal involvement throughout the selection and placement process. To achieve a good match between family and nanny, she works closely with both parents and childcare providers, beginning with an in-home consultation where she learns about the family's specific needs and situation. Clients have an opportunity to meet with several candidates to insure they find a nanny with whom they are entirely comfortable. Families are assured of continuity, because Sue stays involved throughout the placement, encouraging feedback and providing a flexible replacement policy should the need arise.

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Business

BRIEFS

New store on lawyer's docket

Andover lawyer Alfred M. Zappala, president and CEO of Tutti Prodotti Siciliani (TPSI) and All Things Sicilian Catalog Store in Lawrence, has announced his company will be opening a second store in Somerville on May 1, at 315 Highland Ave. The new location is expected to create six permanent jobs and will feature imported olive oils, gourmet vegetable products, pasta, coffee, ceramics and cultural artifacts under exclusive distribution agreements with Sicilian manufacturers through parent company TPSI.

"We are excited about opening a second store. Our Lawrence store, at 4 Union St., has helped spark interest in the Gateway area, and we hope that we can do the same in Somerville. As a destination store, we offer taste testings, recipes for our products as we promote our Sicilian heritage," said Zappala, in a release. The Somerville store, near Davis Square, will begin renovations this month, with a May 1 target opening.

Andover's Amicore hails new president, Noffsinger

Amicore Inc., a practice-improvement company providing clinical and financial software and services to physicians, recently announced the appointment of Richard Noffsinger as president.

Prior to joining Amicore, a Minuteman Road company, Noffsinger was the worldwide health-care group manager for Microsoft Corp., where he was responsible for directing the company's strategy in the health-care market.

Amicore was created in 2001 through a collaboration of Pfizer, IBM, and Microsoft. During his tenure at Microsoft, Noffsinger participated in the launch of Amicore, and he has served as a member of the Amicore board since its founding. He is a 14-year technology and health-care veteran and brings to Amicore a combination of industry-leading expertise with proven commitment, according to a company release.

O'Donoghue switches offices

Mary O'Donoghue, formerly of DeWolfe, North Andover, has joined Prudential Howe & Doherty Realtors. Her office is located in their new branch office, which opened this winter at 76 Main St.

O'Donoghue "enjoys a stellar reputation as one of the area's top real-estate professionals. Her loyal clientele attest to her market expertise in the successful sale of their property," said the company.

O'Donoghue has 12 years of experience in the industry, specializing in residential sales in the Andovers. She serves as an active member of the local and state realtor associations and is involved in the community at many levels.

Prudential Howe & Doherty is an independently owned and operated member of Prudential Real Estate Affiliates Inc., a real-estate brokerage network with 1,527 offices and 42,000 sales associates.

Paulette Zuena joins Re/Max

Paulette Zuena has joined Re/Max Partners at 44 Park St., as a sales associate. Rick Coco and Thomas Carroll are the broker/owners of Re/Max Partners.

Specializing in residential sales, Zuena provides real-estate services throughout Andover, North Andover, Merrimack Valley and Southern New Hampshire, said a release. She resides in Andover with her husband, Anthony, and their two grown children.

Grant for scrub-style uniforms

Paraprofessional staff at HomeCare Inc. in Lawrence will soon be sporting new uniforms as they care for homebound patients throughout the Merrimack Valley. The non profit agency recently received a grant for \$5,640 from the Essex County Community Foundation to assist with their training and skills-building initiative.

\$now-related sale\$

Harsh seasonal weather can bring a winter windfall – or just a fall in sales

By Judy Wakefield

Long, snowy winters can cold-cock some businesses, while providing others with a blizzard of profitable activity.

Businesses that rely on window shopping lose out when outside temperatures dip below zero, or snowstorms force people indoors, while supermarkets thrive.

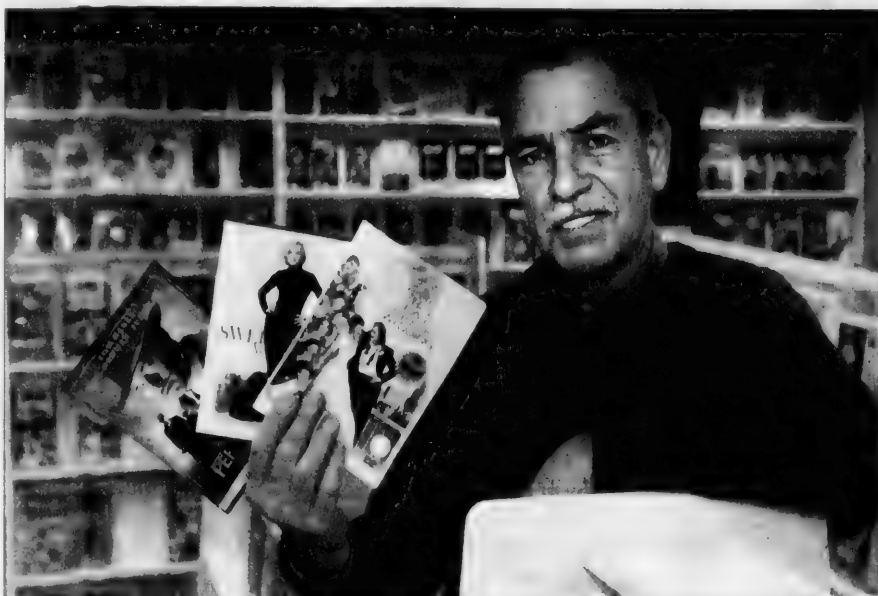
One of the clear winners this long winter are the video stores. Video-store managers are loving every inch of snow that falls.

"You go to Market Basket and then here," Bill Zappala, owner of Andover Video on Main Street, said of the snow strategy shared by most of his customers this winter. "They are so worried about being stuck in the house, that they hit the supermarket and then load up with videos."

It was not uncommon for customers to check out eight to 10 videos in a snowstorm, he said. And he is thrilled with every single one of those check-outs.

"This winter has been better than normal for my business," said Zappala, who has been running the store for almost 12 years. "It's been a few years since I've seen this kind of business. Without a doubt, there's been a good business this winter."

My Big Fat Greek Wedding was



Bill Zappala, owner of Andover Video on Main Street, found his business boomed as the snow piled up. He holds some of this winter's top rentals for Andover residents.

the most popular video rented at the store this winter. But Zappala adds "people will rent anything" when snow is falling.

Predictably, the snow-blower business also has boomed this win-

ter. At Andover Small Engine, a family business on School Street, sales "went through the roof," according to a worker who did not want to be identified. Plenty of deposits have been put down on snowblowers for next season.

One might expect the travel business to also be booming, as residents look to visit warmer climates. But a tough economy, coupled with security worries around the world, has made for less traveling, according to one local travel agency.

Fewer people than usual are also getting tans in preparation for their trips.

"Our regular clients who scoot out at lunch time won't come because it is too cold to scoot out," said Doris Sheehan, owner of Andover Tanning on Main Street. "And it's the same with our

evening clients. They don't want to get out of their cars."

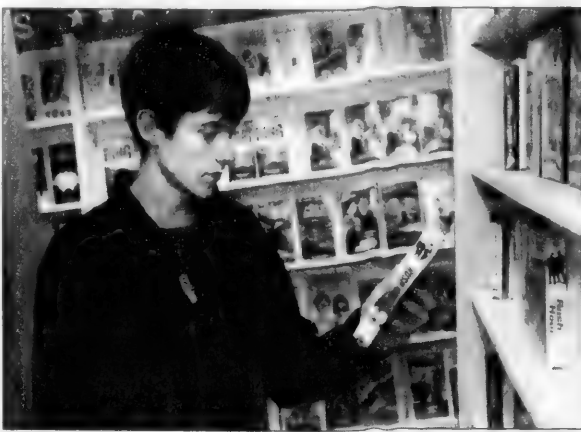
Sheehan has noticed a drop in business this winter due to the cold weather. The economy is not helping, she said.

She's been on Main Street for 16 years and said this winter will also be remembered for a drop in Main Street window shopping. It's too cold to walk downtown.

"I've never seen so many parking spots open," she said. "I've never seen a time where I could park out front, or when my clients have found a parking place mid-afternoon."

She described the Main Street scene as a "ghost town" when the weather turns cold because it is simply too frigid for foot traffic.

In eight days, spring rolls in. Sheehan is very much looking forward to it.



Andover residents such as Sean Platt are often in a rush to rent videos when they hear a storm is coming.

New partner joins Dewhirst Family Funeral Homes

Richard C. Dewhirst, president, and Albert A. Abdallah of the Charles F. Dewhirst Family Funeral Homes, have announced the addition of a new partner, Robert D. Chase. Chase has been associated with the Charles F. Dewhirst Funeral Home for more than 10 years.

Born and raised in Methuen, Chase is a licensed funeral director and embalmer, as well as a funeral and estate preplanning specialist, according to the home. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of Massachusetts in Lowell

with a bachelor's degree in business administration, and also minored in psychology and economics. He graduated summa cum laude from Briarwood College with an associate's degree in funeral services, said a release.

Chase also holds a Pennsylvania funeral director and embalmer's license, as he worked for a large funeral services firm in that state for four years. Chase is committed to offering personalized service and compassionate care to the families he serves, he says.

HOT DOGGING IT



Kayem Foods Chief Executive Officer Ray Monkiewicz (center) congratulates Andover residents Krzysztof Roszowski (left) and Ted Teichert (right) on their 20 and five years, respectively, of service to the company. Roszowski and Teichert, who work in Kayem's Chelsea headquarters, were recognized at a ceremony last month.

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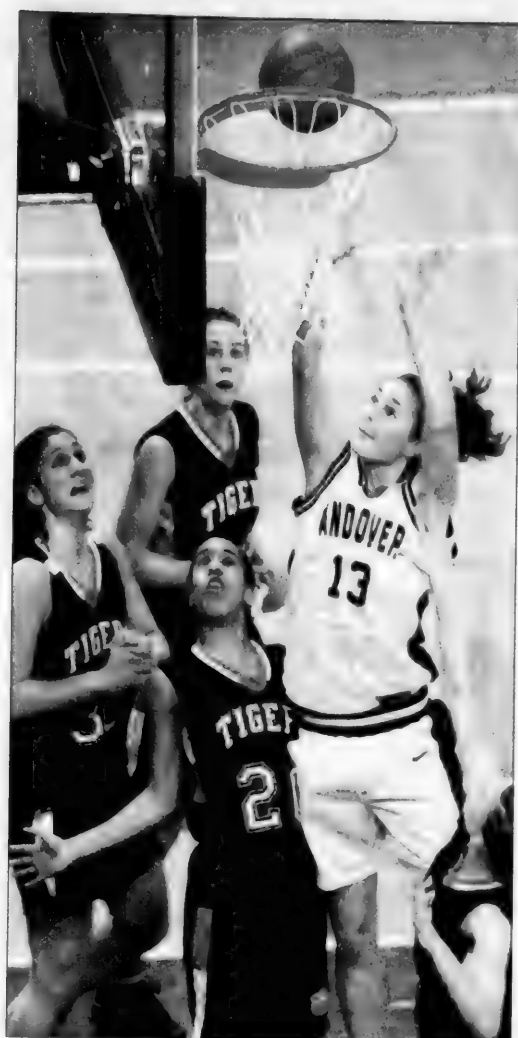
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Sports



Newton North players seem to be in awe as Andover's Ashley McLaughlin drives to the hoop for the layup surrounded by defenders in Eastern Mass. Final game at the FleetCenter.

WINNING ROUTINES

Muller, McLaughlin two of the game's best

By Rick Harrison

JENNY MULLER NEEDS HER BOWL of frosted mini-wheats on game day, while Ashley McLaughlin craves a steak and cheese sub from Barron's Country Store across from Haggett's Pond.

Jenny also wears her necklace in warmups, then carefully unclips it and hands it to her father Dick who puts it in his pants pocket during the game.

These are the rituals players on winning teams follow, and a pox on anyone who dares scoff or disturb the routine.

Neither Muller nor McLaughlin, the top two scorers on the Andover High girls basketball squad, claims to be superstitious.

McLaughlin, in particular, could make a good case because she wears lucky No. 13 on her uniform.

But don't rock their boat.

"The day we lost to Central my sister, Sarah, gave me a different brand of power bar," said Muller. "I never should have eaten it."

Dietary considerations and quirks aside, Muller and McLaughlin have blazed quite a trail for themselves on the court.

Acknowledged as two of the best players in the state of Massachusetts, they have combined for more than 700 points this season and over 2,200 for their career.

Besides being a year apart in age, a grade apart in school and six inches apart in height, there are plenty of similarities between the two ultra-talented hoopsters.

Both are honor roll students as adept in the classroom as they are on the court.

They echo the notion that "hanging out with friends" is one of their favorite activities.

Continued on page 19

'Chairwoman of the Boards'

By Rick Harrison

LOWELL — Matia Kostakis has come of age as a basketball player.

That was never more apparent than in Andover's Division 1 North title game Saturday against Lowell at Tsongas Arena.

Stealing a page from consistent AHS headlines Jenny Muller and Ashley McLaughlin, Kostakis stepped into the catalyst role and propelled the Lady Warriors to their 46-32 victory by scoring a game-high 16 points, ripping down a game-high 18 rebounds and adding two blocked shots and two steals.

Just call her the Chairwoman of the Boards.

"Kostakis killed us," admitted Lowell coach Mike Crowley. "She is the most improved player in the league. She's good for a double-double, at least 10 points and 15 rebounds, every time out now."

"She's the perfect role player to complement Muller and McLaughlin."

"I've become more comfortable playing the game the past few weeks," said junior 5'11" forward Kostakis. "Lowell was a little cautious around me under the boards and I took advantage of it. I was really into the game and I felt strong."

Kostakis broke Andover's game-opening drought by scoring the Lady Warriors' first points 4:54 into the action.

She also connected on a putback to give AHS a 12-11 lead late in the first half, and nailed a jumper from the free throw line midway through the second half to again put the locals on top, 28-27.

Continued on page 19



Andover's Jenny Muller brings the ball up court at the FleetCenter against a Newton North defender in Eastern Mass. Basketball Final action Tuesday night. Andover prevailed in a 52-44 victory, and plays for the state championship on Saturday at 5:45.

LADY WARRIORS TAKE DIVISION 1 TITLE AT THE FLEETCENTER

EMass Champions!

Andover plays in state championship game Saturday at Centrum

By Rick Harrison

Resilience.

Time and again, throughout the regular season and the MIAA Tournament, the Andover High girls basketball team has shown an unwavering ability to rally from behind and come through in the clutch.

Adversity has been the Lady Warriors' middle name while pride, courage and poise have become their trademarks.

Tuesday night's game followed a very familiar pattern. Coach Jim Tildsley's AHS club played it close from the start, fell behind late and then closed with a ferocious rush to win going away.

The latest victory came on the biggest stage, the FleetCenter parquet floor, in a State Division 1 semifinal played before a screaming audience of 4,000 appreciative fans.

Trailing Division 1 South champ Newton North 44-41 with three minutes left, the locals put together an improbable 11-0 run the rest of the way to post a 52-44 victory.

The second Eastern Mass. Division 1 title in AHS girls hoop history is now added to other championships secured earlier in this magical 2002-03 season, namely Division 1 North, Merrimack Valley Conference Division 1, Greater Lawrence Christmas Tournament and AT&T Broadband/February Fest.

This weekend the Lady Warriors get a chance to do something unique, win a state championship and earn a new banner for the Dunn Gym.

Saturday night at the Worcester Centrum (5:45 p.m.) Andover will face the winner of last night's other State semifinal, played (after *Townsmen* presstime) at the UMass Amherst Mullins Center between North Middlesex Regional of Townsend and favored Minnechaug Regional of Wilbraham.

If Minnechaug won, it sets up a rematch of the Lady Warriors only previous state final in March of 1997 when the locals dropped a 55-40 decision to the traditional Western Mass. power.

Minnechaug also won state titles in 1998 and 2000 and has been Western Mass. champ five of the last seven years.

STATE DIVISION 1 TOURNAMENT

SEMIFINAL

Andover 52

Newton North 44

"This game was a happening — an event," said coach Tildsley. "I saw all eight Eastern Mass. title games played in the Fleet on Monday and Tuesday, and this was by far the most exciting."

It was also a war.

After the first four minutes, when Newton opened a six-point lead, neither team was ahead by more than three until Andover made its final 11-0 run. And the lead changed hands at least a dozen times.

With Newton in front, 44-41, senior guard Merry Fish buried her fourth three-pointer of the game to forge a tie.

"Merry played her best game ever," said Tildsley. "She was 4-for-5 from three-point range and remained very cool under fire."

The Lady Warriors, who turned the defensive intensity up a couple notches at exactly the right time, forced a North turnover and came back down the floor to score the go-ahead basket.

Fittingly, it was Capt. Jenny Muller sticking her 29th trey of the season from the right baseline to make it 47-44.

From that point on two free throws apiece from Muller and senior Samantha Hughes, and one by Matia Kostakis, completed the scoring and sealed the victory.

"These kids have something very special," said Tildsley. "They know how to close out a game like no other team around."

Early problems

Andover played Newton (21-4), which beat Brockton 60-47 in the South final, man-to-man for the first four minutes.

"We had a definite edge at the guard posi-

tion," said Tildsley. "But they match up with us height-wise and they're very physical. We couldn't cover them one-on-one inside."

So the locals switched to their infamous 1-1-3 zone defense, which gave several earlier tournament opponents Excedrin headaches.

"We packed it in underneath and shut them down where they are strongest," said Tildsley. "Newton only has one outside shooter (Britt Spackman) and we did a good job on her all night."

Andover led 22-21 at the half.

Muller led all scorers with 19 points and she added a game-high seven assists, three steals.

"Jenny played a perfect floor game," said Tildsley. "I can't remember her making any mistakes."

Fish was also in doubles with 12 points and Ashley McLaughlin finished with nine points, a single-game season-high nine steals, eight rebounds and two blocked shots.

"Tonight was as physical as I've ever seen Ashley play," said Tildsley. "She really mixed it up under the basket which accounted for a lot of those steals."

Samantha Hughes and Matia Kostakis contributed five points each, while Hughes also had nine rebounds, four steals and Kostakis five boards.

Jackie Powers and Meagan Merinder

wished a free throw each.

Andover committed only four turnovers the entire game, an amazingly low number, and hit 18-of-20 free throws.

The long-range shooting was crucial as Fish and Muller combined for seven three-pointers, while Newton only hit one shot from behind the arc all night.

Cara Woodbury and Suzanne Carter paced North with 14 and 13 points respectively, but they combined for only six points in the second half.

"Our three seniors (Muller, Fish and Hughes) came up huge," said Tildsley. "They figured it out tonight."

"I'm so happy for them and so proud the way they played. This is an experience they will never forget."

Scoring leaders

Muller is the top scorer through 24 games with 396 points. She also has 1,474 career points, trailing only her older sister Charlotte (1,600 points) on the all-time AHS girls hoop scoring list.

Holy Cross recruit Ashley McLaughlin has 331 points. Matia Kostakis 128. Samantha Hughes 127. Jackie Powers 124 points and Merry Fish 116.

Win over Lowell paved the way to FleetCenter parquet this week

By Rick Harrison

LOWELL —

Jenny Muller

stood in the hall-

way outside the

Andover locker

room at the

Tsongas Arena in

Lowell, flashing a

champion-

ship grin and accepting a congratulatory hug

from a friend.

The Lady Warriors had just survived a hard-

fought battle against Lowell to win the Division 1

North Tournament, with the 46-32 triumph mov-

ing AHS within two victories of a first-ever State

title in girls basketball.

Like so many games this season, Andover

took control down the stretch by showing poise,

confidence and making clutch shots at crucial

times.

For senior All-Scholastic point-guard and

team captain Muller, it was also the 83rd win in

92 career games at AHS.

"I think we had an edge mentally in the final

few minutes," said Muller. "We've been in more

close games and more big tournament games

than Lowell. We had the advantage in experi-

ence."

Fellow All-Scholastic Ashley McLaughlin,

whose dagger-in-the-heart three-pointer with

1:50 left was the key stroke, agreed with Muller.

"Five of our games went right down to the

final minute or overtime," noted talented 6'1"

forward McLaughlin. "We're prepared for games

like this."

Echoed coach Jim Tildsley: "There was never

a sense of panic. We know how to win the games

that come down to the wire. We've been

involved in enough of them."

Lowell did not go down easily, however, as

Andover was forced to scut and claw before

pulling out the draining tug-of-war victory over

their Merrimack Valley Conference Division 1



Jenny Muller



Ashley McLaughlin



Matia Kostakis

nival before 2,700 fans at the Tsongas

It was the third straight season and fifth time in eight years the Lady Warriors reached the North title game.

It was also the third win, the previous two North championships captured back-to-back at Methuen's expense, 52-38 in 1996-97 and 61-46 in 1997-98.

DIVISION 1 NORTH TOURNAMENT

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Andover 46

Lowell 32

The final score does not begin to tell the story. For more than 30 of the 32 minutes, the favored Lady Warriors were scrambling in an effort to extend their tournament life.

Finally, with North top-seed AHS clinging to a tenuous 32-29 lead and less than two minutes remaining, the game took a dramatic turn.

McLaughlin buried her three-pointer from the left elbow, bumping the lead up to six points and taking some of the light out of scrappy underdog Lowell.

Matia Kostakis, Muller and Jackie Powers converted 11-of-12 free throws in the final 87 seconds, lifting the locals into the State semifinals for the third time.

The game was far from an artistic success, but for drama it was an Oscar contender until the final 90 seconds.

Familiar opponents, who probably know each other too well, kept it close and exciting.

Continued on page 18



PHOTO BY CARL RUSSO

Mike O'Dea, an Andover fan and the father of player Kerri O'Dea, reaches out to congratulate Jenny Muller as she and her teammates, Arianna Miliotis (left) and Colleen Haugh (right) go into the stands to thank the fans at the Eastern Mass. Basketball Finals at the FleetCenter. Andover defeated Newton North, 52-44.

Win over Lowell paved the way to FleetCenter

DIVISION 1 CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Continued from page 17

Tenacious man-to-man defense on both sides also kept points at a premium and made uncontested shots nearly impossible.

In the first half Andover was 6-for-30 and Lowell 6-for-21 from the floor. Things didn't improve much after the break, with Lowell 7-for-26 and Andover 6-for-22.

The free throw line is where Andover won it, hitting 19-of-25 to Lowell's 4-for-6.

Slow start

After a game-opening burst by Lowell the rivals were never more than three points apart until McLaughlin's trey.

As it has several times against strong opponents this season, Andover started slowly and fell behind 9-2 in the opening 5:50.

The Lady Warriors missed their first six shots, committed four turnovers in the first five minutes, and didn't get on the board until Kostakis dropped in a lay-up 4:54 into the game.

AHS crept back into contention slowly but surely, as lefty shooter Muller nailed a top-of-the-key three. McLaughlin contributed a three-point play on a give-and-go bucket and free throw, and Muller swished an 18-footer.

A Kostakis putback, and a McLaughlin layup off a perfect lead pass by MVC 1 Player-of-the-Year Muller, gave the locals a 14-11 lead with 4:11 left in the half.

Lowell closed with a 6-2 run, however, to take a 17-16 lead into the locker room at half-time.

"We were getting good looks and good shots in the first half," insisted Tildsley. "They just weren't falling. We couldn't get any momentum started."

"Dick (assistant coach Muller) and I kept telling the girls to keep shooting. Sooner or later they had to start dropping, although in the second half we struggled even more just to get our shots off."

"We weren't worried because we were playing excellent defense, and our rebounding was immense with Matia (Kostakis) and Ashley (McLaughlin)," said Tildsley.

McLaughlin connects

The archrivals traded baskets and remained within three points of one another throughout the first 14 minutes of the second half.

Finally, with 1:50 left, McLaughlin buried her big three-pointer to boost the Lady Warriors' lead to 35-29.

It also capped a stretch where McLaughlin netted seven straight Andover points, including a putback off the glass and two free throws.

"I think the 'three' set the tone for the rest of the game and swung the momentum in our

favor," said Holy Cross recruit McLaughlin.

"When Ashley hit the shot I knew we were going to win this game," said Muller, who plans to play both basketball and soccer at Tufts University. "That was huge!"

Tildsley felt an earlier hoop was also critical to the cause.

"Before 'Mac' hit the three, Kostakis nailed a jump shot from the free throw line on a designed play," he noted. "That provided a lift for us."

Trailing 35-29 with less than two minutes left, Lowell was forced to foul and AHS responded by converting 11-of-12 charities.

Kostakis was 6-for-6. Muller 4-for-4 and sophomore guard Jackie Powers added one to deceptively make it look like a runaway.

Samantha Hughes also contributed three crucial steals in the final two minutes.

"Sam had an excellent second half," said Tildsley. "She contained their freshman shooter, (Courtney) Schermerhorn, and really provided a spark on defense."

Tsongas jitters

"I think everyone was a little nervous for the first couple minutes of the game," said Muller. "After all, this is the Tsongas Arena. It's a lot bigger (6,000 seats) than the Dunn Gym or St. John's Prep. The whole atmosphere is different."

McLaughlin agreed: "We all had jitters at first. But once the game starts they pretty much go away."

Muller, who suffered through a rare off-night shooting, said she never lost her confidence or got frustrated.

"I passed a little more, trying to help Matia and Ashley get the shots they wanted," said Muller. "I also know when I miss they're usually on the offensive boards."

"That's as tough a shooting night as Jenny's ever had," said Tildsley. "But she never got down on herself and kept contributing in other ways."

Muller also credited Lowell's bulldog defense for the Lady Warriors' shooting miseries.

"Lowell was a lot more aggressive tonight," said Muller. "They used some box-and-1, some triangle-and-2 and some zone."

"It was just an off-night for everyone," said McLaughlin. "The coaches told us the shots would fall, eventually, and to keep boxing out and getting rebounds. We also had to keep up our intensity on defense."

"The keys for us always are rebounding and defense," said Muller. "We try to hold teams under 50 points. When we do we win."

This was the third straight tourney game where the opponent failed to score 50 points. It was also the 10th time the Lady Warriors yielded fewer than 40 points.

"We got tired of saying 'play defense,' but it was what saved us," said Tildsley.

Scrappy Lowell

"I would 10 times rather have played Peabody than Lowell," said Tildsley. "It was nice for the league that we had an all-MVC Division 1 North final, but I so did not want to face Lowell a third time."

"Mike (Lowell head coach Crowley) has a good, hard-nosed group of players. They're also a class bunch."

"Our girls enjoy playing them. Jenny (Muller) has been on AAU teams with Asia (Lowell point-guard Alston). There are friendships and familiarity between the teams."

Crowley was proud of his team's spunky performance against the favored Lady Warriors.

"We scrapped all night," he said. "The low score was not a case of us being cold. It was the Andover defense. For the past few years Andover has been the best defensive team in the state."

"We knew going in we had to score at least 50 points to win this game," added Crowley. "We felt we were in good shape at the half, with the one point lead, but Andover's defense and physical toughness was too much for us. Eventually they wore us down."

For Lowell's four seniors, who never claimed a win against Andover in four years, it was frustrating.

"We took it right down to the end," said senior point guard Alston. "We had what it takes to win this game, but we made a few reckless mistakes at the end and the foul shots killed us."

"We did our best on the boards against a much bigger team," added Alston, who may attend Worcester Academy next fall. "It was a good effort but I guess the best team won. It's very frustrating."

Kostakis rules

Matia Kostakis finished with a game-high 16 points and 18 rebounds, while also adding two steals and two blocked shots.

McLaughlin contributed 12 points, 15 boards and three blocked shots.

Muller also had 12 points, Merry Fish five and Jackie Powers one free throw.

Alston paced Lowell with 12 points, seven rebounds, five steals and three assists.

"We haven't had much luck against Andover over the years," said Crowley. "But neither has anyone else. They have excellent coaches and their feeder system is second to none."

"I'm so happy for our seniors (Muller, Hughes, Fish and Kerrie Dargan)," said Tildsley. "They are a special group and they really wanted this North title after coming so close the last two years."

Two years ago Somerville beat Andover 61-

42 in the North final, and last year Cambridge

Rindge & Latin squeezed out a 56-54 victory.

Key stops along the way on the Andover High girls basketball team Road to the FleetCenter

December 13

Open the season with a hard-fought and harder-than-expected 42-36 win over Tewksbury, which would go on to a winning season and a berth in the Division 2 North Tournament.

December 17

Key 39-25 win over archrival Central Catholic, establishing Lady Warriors as a defensive force to be reckoned with as Central would go on to qualify for the Division 1 North Tournament.

December 26-27

Once again winners of the Greater Lawrence Christmas Tournament after posting convincing victories over Methuen, 74-49, and Cape Ann League power North Andover, 55-34.

January 7

Kick in the New Year with a 65-36 romp over Billerica, which would go on to capture the Merrimack Valley Conference Division 2 championship.

January 10

First of three wins over stubborn Lowell, 62-41, as locals inch ahead by one at the half before breaking the game wide open in the final 16 minutes. The Red Raiders lost only five games all season (19-5) and finished second to Andover in Division 1 of the MVC.

January 17

Preserve undefeated record with a come-from-behind 43-42 win at Haverhill. Trailing by seven with two minutes left, AHS rallies behind play of Jenny Muller, Ashley McLaughlin and a game-winning shot from the left baseline by sophomore Jackie Powers with three seconds to play.

February 1

In first-ever meeting with Rhode Island Division 1 power Ponaganset, Andover starts fast and never looks back on the way to 54-32 victory.

February 9

Perfect season is spoiled when Central Catholic, the last team to beat Andover in an MVC game, pulls 53-50 upset at home. Loss ends lengthy AHS league win streak.

February 11

Clinch sixth MVC title in last eight years with another heart-stopping win over Haverhill. This one, on Senior Night at Andover's Dunn Gym, ends in 60-58 overtime triumph. Led by Muller, McLaughlin, Samantha Hughes and Matia Kostakis, AHS opens up five-point lead early in OT and holds on for win.

February 13

Second win over Lowell, 56-43, as Andover once again pulls away in the second half by wearing Lowell down with tenacious man-to-man defense and strong rebounding.

February 15-16

Repeat as champions of the highly-competitive AT&T Broadband/February Fest Tournament at Boston College High with wins over FleetCenter qualifiers Foxboro (53-46, semifinal) and Fontbonne Academy of Milton (58-45, title game). Ashley McLaughlin named tourney MVP while Jenny Muller is All-Tournament Team choice and recipient of scholarship award.

March 8

After 62-43 (quarterfinal) and 52-40 (semifinal) Division 1 North Tournament wins over Central Catholic and Lynn Classical, respectively, and wins third Division 1 North title with 46-32 triumph over Lowell before 2,700 fans at Tsongas Arena in Lowell. Kostakis leads team with 16 points (10-for-10 free throws) and 18 rebounds, while McLaughlin adds 12 points, 15 boards and Muller 12 points. McLaughlin hits backbreaking three-pointer with 1:50 left and AHS pulls away by converting 11-of-12 free throws in final 87 seconds.

March 11

Rallying from a three-point 44-41 deficit with three minutes left, AHS escapes on game-closing 11-0 run to beat Newton North 52-44 at FleetCenter (4,000 fans) and capture second Eastern Mass. Division 1 title in program history. Merry Fish three-pointer ties game, 44-44, Jenny Muller trifecta puts Andover ahead and free throws by Muller (19 points, 7 assists), Samantha Hughes and Matia Kostakis close it out.

GAME SUMMARIES

ANDOVER 52, NEWTON NORTH 44 State Division 1 Semifinal at FleetCenter

Newton North — Britt Spackman 2-2-7, Cara Woodbury 5-4-14, Annie Rabinovitch 1-0-2, Sarah Rabinovitch 3-2-8, Suzanne Carter 5-3-13. **Totals:** 16-11-44.
Andover — Jackie Powers 0-1-1, Merry Fish 4-0-12, Jenny Muller 6-4-19, Matia Kostakis 2-1-5, Ashley McLaughlin 3-3-9, Samantha Hughes 1-3-5, Meagan Merinder 0-1-1. **Totals:** 16-13-52.
Halftime: Andover, 22-21. **3-pointers:** A, Fish 4, Muller 3; NN, Spackman 1.
Records: Andover 23-1, Newton North 21-4.

ANDOVER 46, LOWELL 32 Division 1 North Championship Game at Tsongas Arena, Lowell

Lowell — Laurie Tanguay 0-0-0, Courtney Schermerhorn 2-2-6, Kayleigh Scannell 2-0-4, Katelyn Elliott 0-0-0, Asia Alston 5-2-12, Caitlin Barry 0-0-0, Courtney Keefe 2-0-6, Jamie Shugrue 0-0-0, Natalie Shea 2-0-4, Nelia Nunez 0-0-0. **Totals:** 13-4-32.
Andover — Jackie Powers 0-1-1, Samantha Hughes 0-0-0, Merry Fish 2-0-5, Meagan Merinder 0-0-0, Jenny Muller 3-5-12, Liz Pallotta 0-0-0, Matia Kostakis 3-10-16, Colleen Haugh 0-0-0, Ashley McLaughlin 4-3-12, Kerrie Dargan 0-0-0, Kerri O'Dea 0-0-0, Arianna Miliotis 0-0-0. **Totals:** 12-19-46.
Halftime: Lowell, 17-16. **3-pointers:** A, Muller 1, McLaughlin 1, Fish 1; L, Keefe 2. **Records:** Andover 22-1, Lowell 19-5.

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Focus was the key to big FleetCenter win

By Rick Harrison

They were about to live the dream of every Massachusetts high school basketball player — to run the parquet floor at the FleetCenter.

But if the Andover High girls basketball players were overly-excited, it didn't show on the bus ride to Boston.

"They were very, very focused," said coach Jim Tildsley. "We got there early, about 4:30 (for a 7:45 o'clock start), and I'm glad we did."

"It gave the kids a chance to get used to the whole vastness and atmosphere of the FleetCenter. I didn't want them to be intimidated by their surroundings."

"When we played at the Tsongas the game before, we shot horribly because the girls weren't used to the background. Those big arenas are so wide open it throws the depth perception off," said Tildsley.

"I told them to go hard in warmups and get used to shooting from their favorite spots on the floor."

"It paid off because we had the highest scoring game of the day. Most of the other teams really struggled on offense. Melrose only scored 23 points and Fontbonne won, 36-34."

One of the most appreciative Andover fans Tuesday night at the Fleet was Jenny Muller's older sister and all-time AHS scoring leader Charlotte.

"Charlotte ran up to me after we won and said it was the most exciting game she's ever seen," said Tildsley. "That's quite a compliment from a great player who's been involved in and watched so many good basketball games."

ketball games."

Tildsley couldn't stop raving about the Andover crowd, which was large, loud, boisterous, blue-and-gold colorful and well-behaved.

"Our fans were awesome," said the coach. "I'll bet we had twice as many people there as Newton. There were four busloads of students and I know a lot of people said they were coming by train."

"I know we're going to pack 'em in even more for Saturday's game."

The coach was also grateful to Greg Hartwell, the AHS eagle mascot, for his efforts to get the people stoked up.

"He got the kids in the seats going and believe me that helps," said Tildsley.

Like proud fathers, Tildsley and assistant coach Dick Muller beamed as they watched their players being treated like royalty after the game.

"They brought the entire starting five into the press room and the newspaper, radio and TV reporters must have interviewed them for a half-hour," said Tildsley. "Merry Fish went on the radio and every girl had her chance in the spotlight."

"The Boston press seems to have fallen in love with our team. They can't believe how we keep coming back and pulling away at the end to win these games."

"I've said before that this may not be our most talented team, but it's such a close-knit group," said Tildsley.

"I'm also a little closer to these kids than I've been with any I've coached."

With 12 minutes left in Tuesday's game, Samantha Hughes picked up her fourth foul and had to go to the bench. She was only there for about 90 seconds.

"I sent her back out on the floor and she played the rest of the game without picking up her fifth foul," said Tildsley. "She didn't shy away. She remained aggressive and finished with nine rebounds and four steals."

Andover was the only North team to win a state semifinal Tuesday night.

The Division 2 title went to Foxboro, Division 3 to Fontbonne Academy of Milton and Division 4 to Harwich.

Tuesday night at the Fleet Tildsley was hit with his first technical foul in eight years as AHS girls coach.

"I had plenty of them when I was coaching the Wilmington boys," he said. "But this was an historic first here at Andover."

The problem came when one of the officials whistled a foul and charged it to No. 13 Ashley McLaughlin instead of the real "culprit," No. 3 Merry Fish.

"If they gave it to Ashley she would have been in foul trouble and I would have been forced to sit her down," explained Tildsley.

When he couldn't get any satisfaction from the official who made the call, the Andover coach jumped up and strode on the court to ask the other ref to confer with his colleague.

"I think he (first ref) got made because I went to the other guy, so he came back and I'd me up," said Tildsley.

All's well that ends well, however, as the officials did change the foul and give it to Fish — which allowed McLaughlin to stay in the game.

"But after that every time our kids jumped off the bench to cheer a play, which they had been doing all night, the ref came over and told them to sit down," said Tildsley.

The coach also had to stay in his seat or risk a second technical and expulsion from the bench.

"I told Dickie (assistant coach Muller) to hold me by the belt and pull me back if I started to get up."

The coaches gave the Lady Warriors yesterday (Wednesday) off to enjoy the FleetCenter win and bask in the limelight.

At the same time, Tildsley and Muller headed to UMass Amherst to scout the Minnechaug/North Middlesex game.

"Dick scouted Minnechaug once already, but we want to get a look at North Middlesex," said Tildsley.

"We were well-prepared for Newton North and we'll be ready for Saturday's game, too. We know what the opponent is going to do — and the kids trust us and listen to us."

"If it's Minnechaug, they're just as strong as the team that beat us when Charlotte and Sarah (Muller) played. We've got a better shot against this team."

The Lady Warriors were scheduled back at it for hard workouts today and tomorrow.

It is anticipated a rally will be held for the team at school tomorrow, although at press time that had not been confirmed.

Ready for Saturday

The Eastern Mass. Division 1 tournament Andover girls basketball team found out last night after Townsman press time, whether it will be playing Minnechaug Regional of Woburn or North Middlesex Regional of Woburn on Saturday night. Massachusetts state basketball tournament.

North Middlesex Regional of Woburn. The girls basketball team will play Minnechaug Regional of Woburn on Saturday night. The girls basketball team will play Minnechaug Regional of Woburn on Saturday night.

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Winning routines

■ MULLER & MCLAUGHLIN

Continued from page 17

Both are following older siblings who starred on the basketball court at Andover High.

Muller's twin sisters Charlotte and Sarah blazed the trail for her, while McLaughlin was preceded by brothers Corry and Tom and sister Kelly.

Charlotte Muller is the school's all-time leading scorer, male or female, with 1,600 points and Tom McLaughlin is the most prolific boys scorer with 1,564.

Corry McLaughlin went on to play at the University of Vermont. Tom is currently at William & Mary (sidelined with a recurring knee injury), and Kelly is a freshman at UMass Amherst.

Muller sisters Charlotte and Sarah graduated from Lehigh University. They currently share a well-appointed Beacon Hill apartment, with Sarah working in the banking business on State Street in Boston and Charlotte commuting back to Andover where she is employed by a local marketing firm.

Dreams came true

Both Jenny and Ashley sat in the stands as youngsters and dreamed of following in their siblings' footsteps.

"When I was 10 or 11 I would go on the court at halftime of my sisters games and shoot baskets," said Muller.

Both also excel at a fall sport, Muller as an All-Conference soccer player and McLaughlin as a Player-of-the-Year in volleyball.

Both have athletically-inclined fathers, neither of whom has been branded as one who pushed his daughter into playing basketball.

Muller's dad Dick was a member of Andover's 1970 State Class C championship boys hoop team coach by Wil Hixon. He is an AHS assistant and has coached many highly-successful Andover 6th, 7th and 8th grade girls travel teams that

provide a great feeder system for the high school.

Tom McLaughlin Sr. is a former UMass basketball player (Julius Erving era) and a professional sports agent (Best In Sports, whose clients include Lafonzo Ellis).

Senior 5'7" point-guard Muller, 18 years old, is headed to Tufts University next fall where she will play soccer and basketball. She picked up both sports at an early age.

"I played soccer first because kids sign up at an younger age," said Jenny. "I like both but basketball has an edge because it's more intense."

Junior 6'1" forward McLaughlin, 17 and committed to Holy Cross in the fall of 2004, started playing basketball when she was seven.

"My brothers were playing and it looked like fun," she explained.

Ashley came up through the ranks with St. Robert's teams in the Andover Church League, sparking them to several titles.

Longtime ACBL director Bob French had both Muller and McLaughlin pegged as future All-Scholastics before they were out of elementary school.

Both played on Andover middle school travel teams, coached by Dick Muller, and now they play about 50 games each on different AAU team: in the spring and summer.

Muller is a member of the Eastern Mass. Lightning and over the years has played tournaments in such exotic locales as Las Vegas, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Virginia Beach and Orlando (Fla.).

"You're away the whole month of July," said Muller, whose team won state tournaments her freshman and junior years.

McLaughlin plays for the Hurricanes, coached by Jim Tildsley and Leo Burke of Saugus, and has competed in tournaments at Penn State and in Washington, D.C., Louisiana, New York, New Jersey and every New England state.

Favorite moments

Muller's favorite career moments came

this season.

"Beating Haverhill in overtime on Senior Night was great," she said. "So was the win over Lowell because of what it meant (Division 1 North championship)."

"We were stuck at that level (title game) for two years. We finally got over the hump. This was the last chance for me."

"Because of the past two years I think we played most of the Lowell game not to lose. The pressure was obviously on us. We were favored by a lot and that may have been on our minds too much."

Although far from her favorite moment, Muller thinks the 53-50 loss to Central Catholic on Feb. 9 was a seasonal turning point.

"It may have been the best thing that happened to us," she noted. "It woke us up to the fact we had been winning but not necessarily playing well."

McLaughlin also did not have to dig deep in the archives to produce her favorite moments.

The topper came with 1:50 left in the North final against Lowell, when she bunted a three-pointer from the left wing to double the Lady Warriors lead to six and spark a 16-3 closing run by the champs.

Running a close second was the 43-42 come-from-behind win at Haverhill.

"When Jackie (Powers) hit her game-winning shot from the baseline with three seconds left — what a great feeling."

Winning this past Tuesday night on the FleetCenter parquet obviously rates at or near the top, as well, and the ultimate thrill may still await should M&M&Co. capture the state title Saturday night.

Praise for teammates

Muller and McLaughlin know how valuable and special their teammates are.

"Sam (Samantha Hughes) definitely picks up the intensity," said Muller. "She's very lively and animated on the court. She loves to dive for loose balls and play hard-nosed defense."

"Matia (Kostakis) is our most improved

player. Since the loss to Central she has picked up her game tremendously. It seems like she gets every rebound."

"Merry (Fish) has the best looking shot on the team," continued Muller. "She takes a lot of pressure off me on defense and when she brings the ball upcourt. She's also a terrific passer."

"Jackie (Powers) has tremendous defensive intensity. She's very strong and athletic. She mixes it up on the basketball court just like she does on the soccer field."

"And Meagan (Merinder) gives us a lift almost every time she comes off the bench."

Turning her attention to McLaughlin, Muller called Ashley "a great teammate."

"I love playing with her. She's unselfish, tough on the boards and she's another excellent passer. We know where the other will be on the court and we're not afraid to give the ball up."

McLaughlin, who admires the work ethic of her favorite player Michael Jordan, calls Hughes the team motivator.

"Sam gets everyone going. She has a great sense of humor and keeps us loose and smiling."

"Merry Fish is our unsung hero and Jackie Powers is a little ball of fire wants to add spunk to the way we play."

"Matia Kostakis is a quiet leader. She's become much more confident in her play and she really makes her presence felt on the boards."

As for Muller...

"Jenny is clearly the leader of the team. She makes us go. She distributes the ball to us in all the right spots."

Obviously these Andover players are a close-knit unit on and off the court.

They get together for a pasta dinner the night before every game.

The site frequently changes, and when the AHS boys were still playing it was often a co-ed affair.

After most "big games" for the girls, the Mullers host a pizza party get-together at their home for players and parents.

Strong expectations

Muller and McLaughlin both felt this season would be good — but maybe not quite this good.

We graduated from a terrific private school (Megan Pinkster, Shantia Sweeney, Katie Kramer, Kelly McLaughlin). We knew we were a different team but just as good," said Muller.

"Then we played our first game against Tewksbury and almost lost, 42-36. That was a little scary, but we worked hard and improved with every game."

"At the Christmas Tournament people were saying this was the first year in awhile any team could win the title. That gave us something to prove — and I think we've earned the respect of Methuen, North Andover and anyone else who doubted us."

"We played a tough non-league schedule," added Muller. "The two teams we beat in the AT&T Tournament, Foxboro and Fontbonne, also made it to the FleetCenter and now they're going to the Centrum with us for the state finals."

"I don't know if we expected to get through 24 games with only one loss," admitted McLaughlin. "But we've meshed well as a team and gotten past the point where we have to prove ourselves."

Spring and summer

Muller, who spent her elementary and middle school springs and summers playing softball and tennis, plans to cut back on her AAU hoop schedule this year.

"Now that I know where I'm going to college next year — I don't have to show the scouts what I can do. I'll probably play in only the local tournaments."

She will also play soccer in an informal summer league comprised mostly of college kids.

McLaughlin plans to visit brother Tom at William & Mary over April vacation. "I haven't seen him in awhile," she explained. "She may also revisit Holy Cross."

"There was something about it. I knew right away it was the school for me. I wanted a small college, close to home, where I can get a good education and hopefully step in quickly and play a lot."

And, rumor has it, there are several shops within walking distance that make a pretty good steak and cheese.

Chairwoman of the Boards

■ MATIA KOSTAKIS

Continued from page 17

At the free throw line, where Andover won the game with a 19-4 scoring edge, she was a perfect 10-for-10 including 6-for-6 in the final 87 seconds when the locals finally pulled away.

Prior to the Lowell game she had made 11 free throws in 22 previous games.

"I don't usually get a chance to shoot free throws because I don't drive to the hoop very often," said Kostakis. "But I work on them a lot in practice and it paid

off."

Against Lowell, Kostakis went to the line mostly after being fouled while pulling down defensive rebounds late in the game.

Muller impressed

Jenny Muller appreciates her teammate and her strong presence under the boards.

"Even when my shots aren't falling I won't hesitate to shoot, because I know Matia and Ashley (McLaughlin) are going to be underneath for the offensive rebounds."

"Matia has dominated on the boards and that's been the big factor in a few of our

wins," added Muller.

"We've told Matia all season that she has to be aggressive," said head coach Jim Tildsley. "She's taken that to heart and has really stepped up to help Ashley (McLaughlin) and Samantha (Hughes) rebound."

"Our game depends a lot on offensive putbacks, or kicking the ball to the perimeter for the outside shooters (Muller, McLaughlin and Merry Fish)."

"On the defensive boards, we want quick outlet passes to get the fast break started," said Tildsley.

"We knew Lowell well," said Kostakis,

who wears a blue-colored thigh-to-ankle brace on her left leg. "We knew what to expect from them."

"They played with a lot of heart, but just like our two regular season games it was close at the half before we wore them down late and pulled away. It just took a little longer this time."

"I was a little nervous until the last few minutes because the game stayed so close. We usually have a few runs to break games open — but that wasn't happening in this one."

"Once Ashley (McLaughlin) hit her 'three' (with 1:50 to play) I felt a lot more comfortable," said Kostakis. "Then Sam (Hughes) made a couple big steals and it changed the whole mentality of the game."

Fifty boards

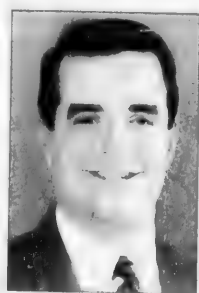
In the first three tournament games, Kostakis had 50 rebounds and 32 points.

She contributed 15 boards and 16 points against Central Catholic, and 14 rebounds, six points and 2 steals versus Lynn Classical.

"The big key to rebounding is being in the right place at the right time," said Kostakis, also a member of the AHS state champion girls swim and dive team. "Anticipating where the ball is going to go. Then you have to box out and be aggressive."

Kostakis has been practicing what she preaches. Just ask opposing players who have stepped into the paint with her recent

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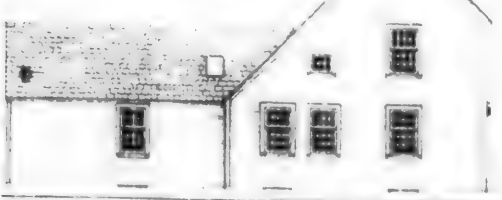
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TROPHY PLAY



Andover's Squirt 3 hockey team qualified for the state final tournament in Fitchburg last weekend after winning a play-down tournament during February vacation week. Holding their play-down trophies are from left, team members (in front) Dan Hyszcak, Brian Hanafin, Liam Centrella, Zach Wilmarth and Catherine Anderson. In back, from left, are Chris Newton, Will Maye, Derek Wakefield, Austin Marocco, Jack Kleckhafer and Kyle Wakefield. Missing from the photo are team members Tim Angell, Glen Martin, Peter Nossif and Brian Townson. The Squirt 3 team won two of its three games in the state tournament, but Billerica took top honors in round-robin play.

PHOTO BY JUDY WAKEFIELD

LOCAL ATHLETES

Andy O'Connell, 13, an eighth-grader at West Middle School, competed in the National Invitational Tim Daggett's (Olympic Gold Medalist) Gymnastics Competition on Feb. 23 in Agawam.

Andy competed in Class 4 with participants from the Northeast. Andy was the champion (first place) on the high bar with a 8.3, second place on the pommel horse with a 7.9, and place sixth in the All Around with a total score of 44.5.

Austin Preparatory School in Reading named senior Kim MacElhaney of Andover as captain of the girls' hockey team. MacElhaney has played at Austin for the past four years as a forward and has been captain for the past two years. She has been honored as a Catholic Central League All-Star, League MVP, and a Boston Globe and Boston Herald All-Scholastic. MacElhaney, who scored her 100th career goal this season, and her team hope to reclaim the Catholic Central League title this year.

Krit Kearins of Andover, a junior diver on the Plymouth State College

team, recently captured the one-meter diving title at the annual New England Women's Swimming and Diving Championships hosted by Bentley College in Waltham.

New England champ Kearins scored a school-record 292.85 points, bettering the mark of 290.65 (10-dive format) she set at last year's New England.

Kearins also placed sixth in the three-meter diving at the same meet with 323.30 points.

She finished first in both the one- and three-meter diving events during meets against St. Joseph's (Conn.) College, Bentley and Westfield State

this season.

She was first in the one-meter competition versus Norwich, Salem State and Regis College.

Her top one-meter diving score prior to New England's was 217.00 points and top three-meter score 229.90, both of which are also PSC season highs.

Kearins was recently selected Little East Conference Women's Diver of the Week for her performance against St. Joseph's.

Her one-meter score in that meet was 212.55 and the three-meter score was 229.90 as she won both and the Panthers hiked their record to 5-2 with a 152-120 victory.

—Rick Harrison



Krit Kearins



The Andover Bantam 2's and their families recently traveled to Montreal, Quebec where they took the silver medal in the Canadian Cup 2003 Youth Hockey Tournament. This international tournament is one of the largest in North America and teams travel from almost every province in Canada and from all over the United States and Europe to participate. It all came down to an overtime shoot-out in the championship game with the Freeport Arrows (New York) eventually taking the 4-3 win. "It was an exciting finish to a rewarding and fun-filled weekend," organizers said. Front row, from left: Dennis Fleming, Peter Smith, Jonathan Traub, Kevin Hitchko, and Tommy Doucette. Back row from left: Asst. Coach Tom Doucette, Danny Powers, Corey Colbert, Brian Walsh, Bryan Black, Matt Lee, Mike Murray, Paul "PJ" Farnham, Asst. Coach Brian Walsh, and Head Coach Tom Black. Not pictured: Kevin Calabro.

The Bantam's cheerleading section (below, from left) included: Lauren Walsh, Jennifer Powers, Devin Walsh, Molly Smith, Katie Lee (No. 9), Jeanette Doucette, and Casey Colbert.



Two teams from Andover's U10 soccer division participated in Lowell's Fall Freeze Tournament. The Andover Cobras and Eagles finished in first and second place, respectively, in the U10 division of the Fall Freeze Soccer Tournament held in Lowell. Dozens of teams from all over Massachusetts participated in the two-day event, which was sponsored by the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association.



Town Champs — This Intermediate Boys 5th- and 6th-Grade team went undefeated to capture the Andover Church Basketball League championship. In the photo are, from left: (Back row) Austin Reed, Coach Guy Ehilbeck, John Hawk, Robin Lowe, Sean Ehilbeck, Head Coach Mark Tassinari and David Keohane. Front row: Bobby Donlan, John Tassinari, Kaelan Crawford, Brian Mason and Brendan Crawford.

ANDOVER LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL JUNIOR AND SENIOR EVALUATIONS 2003

All 13 (Juniors), 14, 15 and 16 (Seniors) year old players are required to attend "evaluation" sessions. The evaluation sessions are not tryouts; all 13, 14, 15 and 16 year olds who want to play will be afforded an opportunity to do so. The evaluations are employed to attempt to achieve team parity throughout the two leagues. Players should bring a baseball glove and wear sneakers. Please arrive at least 10 minutes early because we are on a tight schedule and you need to check in before trying out.

The Evaluations will be conducted on
Sunday, March 16, 2003 and **Sunday March 23, 2003**,
at **Phillips Cage** on **Route 28, Andover** as follows:

Sunday, March 16, 2003

Juniors (13 Year Olds)

All 13 Year Olds

Whose Last Name Begins With:

A through L: 8am - 10am

M through Z: 10am - 12pm

Seniors (14-16 Year Olds)

All 14 Year Olds

Whose Last Name Begins With:

A through H: 12noon - 1pm

I through R: 1pm - 2pm

S through Z: 2pm - 3pm

All 15 & 16 Year Olds

3pm - 4pm



Sunday, March 23, 2003

Seniors (14-16 Year Olds)

All 14 Year Olds

Whose Last Name Begins With:

A through H: 8am - 9am

I through R: 9am - 10am

S through Z: 10am - 11am

All 15 & 16 Year Olds

11am - 12noon

Juniors (13 Year Olds)

All 13 Year Olds

Whose Last Name Begins With:

A through L: 12noon - 2pm

M through Z: 2pm - 4pm

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March 15, 2003

NATIONAL LEAGUE*

Age 10: 8:00am-10:15am

Age 11: 10:15am-11:15am

Age 12: 11:15am-12-noon

AMERICAN LEAGUE*

Age 10: 12:00pm-2:15pm

Age 11: 2:15pm-3:15pm

Age 12: 3:15pm-4:00pm

Saturday
March 22, 2003

AMERICAN LEAGUE*

Age 10: 8:00am-10:15am

Age 11: 10:15am-11:15am

Age 12: 11:15am-12-noon

NATIONAL LEAGUE*

Age 10: 12:00pm-2:15pm

Age 11: 2:15pm-3:15pm

Age 12: 3:15pm-4:00pm

Please come to both sessions. *National League covers players in the Bancroft, Sanborn and South Elementary School Districts.

American League covers players in the West Elementary and new Cross Street (High Plain) School Districts.

WHO SHOULD COME?

Only players age 10 through 12 (before July 31, 2003) who want to be considered for selection by a major league team. Players who have already played a season for a major league team do not have to attend.

Players should bring a glove and wear sneakers (no rubber or metal cleats). Players should arrive 15 minutes early since we are on a tight schedule. Players should attend both sessions if possible to allow a full and fair evaluation. Any player who does not attend at least one of the sessions cannot be considered for the majors.

NOTE: Because of safety concerns, no children other than players will be permitted in the Cage. We would appreciate your cooperation in this regard.

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Arts & Entertainment

EVENTS CALENDAR

Thursday, March 13

Read Across America. Andover's rescheduled *Dr. Seuss Has a Birthday*, (postponed after the snowstorm last Thursday) 6:15 to 8 p.m., West Middle School; Kerry Costello 978-623-8629.

Workshop. No Pain Piano Workshop, learn to play the piano in three hours, instructor Frank Dunne. \$26 registration, \$25 paid in class for materials, 6:30-9:30 p.m., West Elementary School, Beacon Street, to register; DCS 978-623-8274.

Lecture. MSPCA at Nevins Farm Equine Center presents a lecture, "Clicker Training for the Horse," by Sarah Strueman, \$5 donation, 7-8:30 p.m., MSPCA at Nevins Farm Equine Center, Methuen; 978-687-7453.

Live music. Matt Haimovitz, 17, 7:30 p.m., The Crescent Dragon, 59 Washington St., Haverhill, tickets; 978-372-5441, www.crescentdragon.com.

Mystery writers talk. mystery authors Al Blanchard, Leslie Wheeler, and Hallie Ephron, will discuss creating memorable characters in fiction writing free, 7 p.m., conference area of Northern Essex Community College, Bentley Library, Haverhill; 978-556-3421.

Open mic. no cover, 7 p.m., Higher Ground Coffee House, 194 Middle St., Lowell; 978-453-4007.

Open mic. free, The Crescent Dragon, 59 Washington St., Haverhill; 978-372-5441, www.crescentdragon.com

Friday, March 14

Family Valentine dinner dance. the Department of Community Services Valentine's Day party was cancelled due to snow, it is being celebrated tonight, bring your tickets, pizza and refreshments, 6:30-9 p.m., \$10, \$40 family, Old Town Hall, for tickets; 978-623-8274.

Readings. authors Jane Brox, Jay Atkinson and Paul Marion will read from their work in progress, free, 7:30 p.m., Andover Bookstore, 89 Main St.; 978-475-0143.

Musical. Trinitarian Neighborhood Theatre presents *Annie*, Andover resident Penny Kohut plays Miss Hannigan, two of the orphans are played by Andover residents Emily Hook and Devika Ranjan, Carvel Hall, Trinitarian Congregational Church, Elm Street, North Andover, call for times and ticket information; 978-686-4445.

Kick-off breakfast. kick-off WalkAmerica hosted by Mayor Michael Sullivan of Lawrence and

Mayor Rita Mercier of Lowell, special guest speakers include the Massachusetts March of Dimes Ambassador family, 7:30 - 9:00 a.m., Lenzi's Catering & Function Facility, Dracut; 508-663-2112, www.marchofdimes.com.

Luncheon. with Gov. Mitt Romney, \$26, music by the Silver Spears Show Band, St. Mary's Auditorium, the corner of White and Haverhill streets, Lawrence, RSVP: 978-474-8745.

Live comedy. Jim Colliton, Danny Kelly, Stacey Pema, \$12, 9:30 p.m., Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, North Andover; 781-938-8088.

Gallery opening. Kathy Cooper, Frank Casazza, Annalisa Oswald, 7 p.m., Higher Ground Coffee House, 194 Middle St., Lowell; 978-453-4007.

Live music. Paul Prue, 8 p.m., The Crescent Dragon, 59 Washington St., Haverhill, tickets; 978-372-5441, www.crescentdragon.com.

Spring exhibit. presented by Saltbox Gallery, artist demonstrations and exhibits of professional artists and artisans from the North Shore, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Topsfield Fairgrounds; 978-887-3844.

Reception. Wine-tasting reception, 7-9 p.m., Saltbox Gallery, 49 Main St., Topsfield; 978-887-3844.

Saturday, March 15

Dinner dance. St. Robert's Belarmine Parish holds a St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance, \$15 single, \$30 couples, 8 p.m.-midnight, 6:30 cocktails, 7:30 dinner; 978-683-8922, wrsullivan@attbi.com.

Live music. the Wooster Chorus will perform with a chamber orchestra as part of the group's annual spring tour, \$5 suggested donation, 8 p.m., South Church; 978-475-0321.

Craft fair. Mother Connection's Annual Craft Fair support local vendors and organization representatives from Longaberger, Pampered Chef, Discovery Toys and many more, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Marland Place; for information about attending the event or participating as a vendor contact Paula at 978-474-0925.

Films. Irish Film Festival, free, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., movies include: *My Left Foot*, *Michael Collins* and *Bloody Sunday*, Lawrence Heritage State Park, 1 Jackson St., Lawrence; 978-794-1655.

Live music. *An Evening of Irish Song*, with Matt Clancy tenor and James Bushy pianist, free, 8 p.m., Reading Public Library, 64 Middlesex Ave., Reading; 781-944-2017.

Continued on page 22

A 'hole' new way of looking at art

By Ben Hollman

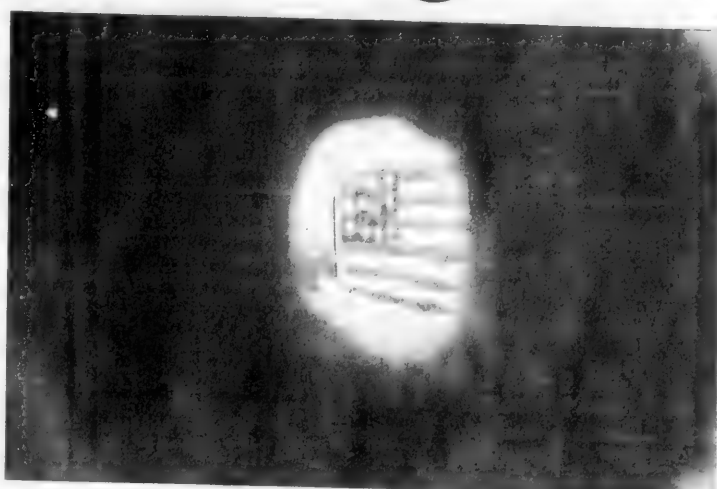
MOST PEOPLE DON'T ASSOCIATE bagels with art. That might change if Bruegger's Bagel Bakery general manager Mohammed Taha has anything to say about it.

Taha, who says "bagels are also art," has been hanging the art of local students on his Main Street shop's walls. He's currently showing works by two classrooms of West Elementary fifth-graders.

Taha also has had high-school students' art grace his walls and has asked Phillips Academy to supply him with enough work for a show.

Every weekday after school, Bruegger's is overrun by Andover's student population - many from middle and elementary schools, says Taha. Now the student regulars can enjoy art created by their peers while enjoying an afternoon snack, he says.

Taha set up the current exhibit with Andover art teacher Daniela DeLuca, who is a regular at the bagel shop.



Fifth-graders at West Elementary made collages of cut and torn paper, on exhibit in Bruegger's Bagel Bakery. Above, seen through a bagel hole, is a flag collage by Evan Price. Below: A tropical scene by Vicky Chu.



DeLuca asked Taha if she could put up a student exhibit. "I mentioned it once and he kept asking me about it," says DeLuca.

The students are happy to help. "It's good that we can show our work to people," says Evan Price, 10, who made a beach scene for the exhibit. Other West Elementary students created collages of cut and torn paper, and say they choose their own subjects and use whatever materials they want.

Students also shared their insights into the importance of art. "You can express your feelings on a piece of paper with different shapes," says Sarah Whitney.

"It's really fun for the kids to see it," says Taha. He says he enjoys displaying community art, and bagel buyers enjoy it too. "This has really been great for us. We get a good response from the customers," he says.

WHAT'S UP

Fun is the key for Mr. AHS participants

By Kyra Auffermann

What's Up Intern

IN PREVIOUS YEARS, Mr. AHS competitions have featured everything from slip 'n' slides to bouncy balls, guitar solos to inflatable dream dates.

In short, they've been an entertaining conglomerate of talent, humor and insanity.

Rehearsals for this year's competition for the coveted title of Mr. AHS indicate this year won't be a disappointment. Within the last few weeks, candidates have worked to perfect their talents - ranging from musical to bizarre - orchestrating their dream dates and

maybe the most formidable task of all, learned to dance. Well, they tried to learn at least.

The annual Mr. AHS competition, sponsored by the junior class as a fundraiser to offset the cost of the prom, will be hosted by Jenn Mason and Dave Tanklefsky. The show will begin at 7 p.m. this Friday, March 14, at the Collins Center. The three categories in which each participant will be judged (judges will remain undisclosed until the night of the show) are sportswear, talent, and dream date. There's no swimsuit component, which is either a blessing or a disappointment, depending on one's perspective, but there will

be dancing, which is choreographed this year by juniors Melissa Cerullo and Lea Ventura. AHS teachers and junior-class advisors Michelle Chachus and Bill Gerson have overseen the 2003 production, a first-time endeavor for both.

"This has been one of the most fun experiences I've had at AHS," Chachus commented during a recent rehearsal. "The guys have worked very hard and the sponsors have been very supportive." Observing the mild bedlam on stage, which was starting to resemble a legitimate performance, Gerson said "you can see it all coming together."

The atmosphere surrounding Mr. AHS this year is laid-back and friendly, free from competitive tension. "I think everyone

is having a lot of fun," says hostess Jenn Mason. "The guys are able to show different sides of their personalities onstage than they normally would." Justin Hudon, a senior who participated in the show last year, says it "was my first big highlight of AHS. It was fun making it happen, even rehearsing with all the guys, joking around and just doing your own thing."

Mr. AHS is always a popular attraction. Thomas Mead, an Andover High teacher, enthusiastically declares it "one of the highlights of the season."

"We're going to put on a good show that everyone will enjoy," promises contestant Scott Mancinelli.

The writer is a sponsor for one of the Mr. AHS hopefuls.

The Mr. AHS competition

The show begins at 7 p.m. tomorrow, Friday, March 14, at the Collins Center. This year's contestants (and sponsors) are:

CONTESTANT	SPONSOR
Ryan Chua	Andrea Pereira
Ian Bergason	Kelly Duncan
Scott Mancinelli	Alyssa Rastelli
Avi Lasser	Lindsey Timko
Dave Baletsa	Kyra Auffermann
Steve Schade	Phuonghu Nguyen
Dale Spollet	Lynette Toomey
Ben Carter	Liz Pallota
Dany Guy	Meredith Schmidt
Mark Brickman	Kerry McArdle
Andy Doherty	Liz Daly
Lyle Brewer	Lindsay Downes



Mr. AHS hopefuls and sponsors take a break during a recent rehearsal.



On Monday, radio station WCCM-AM/1490 presents its salute to St. Patrick's Day from 2-6 p.m., the 17th annual show hosted by Thomas J. Garvey of Andover, featuring Irish music, conversation and reflection.

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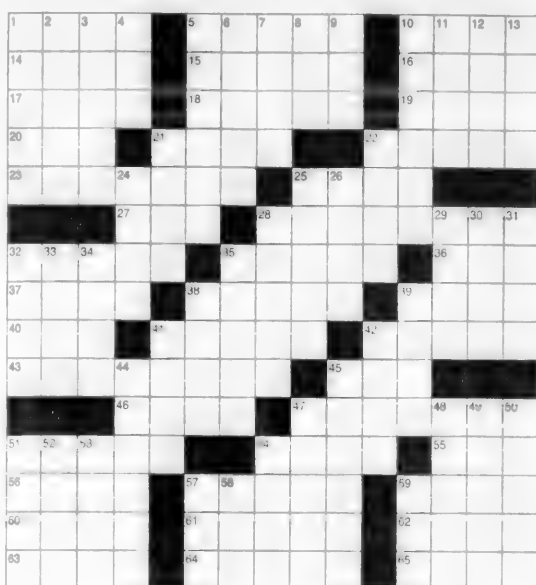
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16. Wings
17. Emit coherent radiation
18. Quarterback _____ Jurgenson
19. Citrus hybrid
20. Type of RAM
21. Fastened
22. Piles
23. One who draws idly
25. Compel
27. N. American organization
28. Every other year golf event
32. Fantasy
35. Tasty
36. Carsick
37. U.S. Secretary of State
38. Envy
39. Capital of Yemen
40. Lyric poem
41. Equids
42. A young pig
43. Buick Open's state
45. Monetary unit
46. Brews
47. Comedian David _____
51. Tracheophytes
54. Equipage
55. _____ Dhabi, Arabian capital
56. Jai _____, sport
57. Jenny _____, diet method



CLUES DOWN

1. Compelled
2. 1836 "siege" of US
3. Move rapidly in music
4. Come across
5. Cinctures
6. Involvement
7. Guidance
8. Hostelry
9. Turkish title of respect
10. Disc
11. Protocist
12. Forest land (British)
13. Six (Spanish)
21. Murder
22. Bob or dog
24. Fix firmly
25. Exaggerates
26. Passage
28. Black bird
29. Aloha
30. Arm bone
31. Make plan
32. Starting point
33. German car
34. 1
35. Short-billed rails
38. Deprive of freedom
39. Tai
41. Metric capacity units
42. Stalk
44. Substance abuses
45. Capital of Czechoslovakia
47. Gumbel, journalist
48. Civil Rights group
49. Siskel and _____, critics
50. Determines
51. Used to have (Scottish)
52. Spanish city
53. Precipitation
54. Pakrit language
57. Cycles per second
58. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
59. Crunches federal numbers

SOLUTION ON PAGE 23

EVENTS CALENDAR

MARCH 13 THRU 23
Continued from page 21

Live comedy, Jim Colliton, Danny Kelly, Stacey Pema, \$12, 9:30 p.m., Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, North Andover; 781-938-8088.

Live music, Spirit Fiddle, 8 p.m., The Crescent Dragon, 59 Washington St., Haverhill, tickets: 978-372-5441, www.crescentdragon.com.

Live music, Acoustic music, no cover, 9 p.m., Higher Ground Coffee House, 194 Middle St., Lowell; 978-453-4007.

Dinner and dance, Ancient Order of Hibernians Men's and Ladies division of Lowell will hold their St. Patrick's Day dinner dance, \$30, 6:30 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner, followed by dancing to the music of John Connors & the Irish Express, Lowell Lodge of Elks Hall, Old Ferry Road, Lowell; 978-453-8580 or 978-459-6875.

Artist's reception, Valerie's Gallery present printmaker Matthew Smith, 5-8 p.m., reception will be held in conjunction with the townwide Gallery Walk day. Valerie's Gallery, 12 State St., Newburyport; 978-499-8444.

Winter tea, and Tour at Castle Hill, \$18 Trustee members, \$26 non-members, seating 1 and 3 p.m., tour one hour prior to seating, reservations required, Castle Hill, Crane Estate, 290 Argilla Road, Ipswich; 978-356-4351.

Spring exhibit, see Mar. 14 entry. **Annie,** see Mar. 14 entry.

Sunday, March 16

Live music, United States Air Force National Guard Band of the Northeast, military, patriotic and Irish tunes, free, 1 p.m., up to four tickets per person can be obtained at the receptionists' desk at the lobby of Town Offices on Bartlet Street. concert is at the Collins Center. Shawheen Road; John Doherty 978-623-8218.

Purim Celebration, Temple Emanuel of Andover is holding its annual Purim Celebration, a magic show by Boston's magician Bonaparte, following the show there will be games at the Purim Carnival in the Social Hall, magic show is free, tickets for the Carnival games are available at the Carnival, 11:45 a.m., the whole community is welcome, Temple Emanuel, 7 Haggets Pond Road; 978-470-1356.

Gallery talk, led by Adam D. Weinberg, the Mary Stripp and R. Crosby Kemper Director of the Addison Gallery of American Art, free, 2 p.m., Addison Gallery, Phillips Academy campus; 978-749-4015.

Workshop, American Textile History Museum presents *Women and Work*, celebrate Women's History Month, free with museum admission, 2 p.m., Dutton Street, Lowell; 978-441-0400 www.ahm.org.

Live music, Jim Porcella, 5-9 p.m., Ipswich Bay Bar and Grill, 24-26 Hammett St., Ipswich, reservations recommended; 978-356-7006.

Spring exhibit, see Mar. 14 entry. **Annie,** see Mar. 14 entry.

Irish Film Festival, see Mar. 15 entry.

Monday, March 17

St. Patrick's Day, radio station WCCM-AM/1490 salute to St. Patrick's Day, 2-6 p.m., presented by local sponsors, hosted by Thomas J. Garvey of Andover. Irish music, conversation and reflection; Thomas J. Garvey 978-470-1658.

St. Patrick's Day, all-day music at the Claddagh Restaurant & Pub, Canal Street, Lawrence; 978-688-8337.

Irish Film Festival, see Mar. 15 entry.

Tuesday, March 18

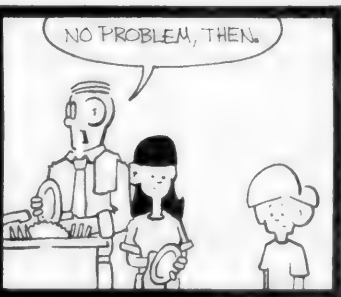
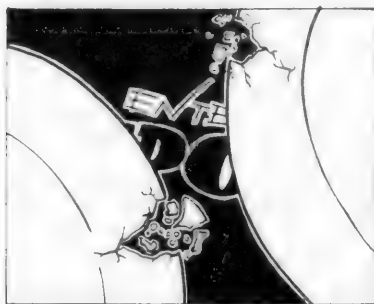
Lecture, Northeast Chapter of the Mass. Archaeological Society presents author and speaker Steven Johnson will lecture on "Ninnouck, The Algonquian People of New England," free, 7:30 p.m., Peabody Museum, corner of Main and Phillips streets; 978-749-4490.

Mixer, the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce, 18 Elm Street, Andover, MA 01810 • (978) 470-1606

Continued on page 23

ENTERING ANDOVER

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Irish Music 4-8pm
Irish Step Dancers

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EVENTS CALENDAR

■ MARCH 13 THRU 23

Continued from page 22

ber with Andover Wyndham Hotel
Luck of the Leprechaun's Market-
ing Mixer, \$10 members, \$20 non-
members, 5-7 p.m., Andover Wynd-
ham Hotel, 123 Old River Road;
978-975-3600.

Live music, vocalist Steve Marvin,
\$5, 7:30-10:30 p.m., Roma Restau-
rant, 29 Middlesex St., Bradford;
978-374-8001.

Wednesday, March 19

Breakfast, Northeast Human
Resources Association hosts a Mer-
rimack Valley breakfast - *Truth to
Power: Managing Up with Emo-
tional Intelligence*, 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.,
Wyndham Hotel, Andover, call for
prices; 781-239-8711,
www.nehra.com/events,
events@nehra.com.

Live music, University of Maine
Singers will perform classical, jazz
and contemporary choral music.

Andover High School graduate
Marianne Iulucci ('01) will be
among the choir, free, 7:30 p.m.,
Collin Center, Marianne Iulucci
978-475-9035

Safety course, North Reading Rifle
Club hosts a firearm safety course,
certified instructor will explain
firearm safety and laws, course
March 19 and 26 at 7 p.m., certi-
cate required by Mass. law, when
applying for a Class A or B license
to carry, or firearm identification
card will be issued to everyone who
completes the course, North Read-
ing Rifle Club, 242 Central St.,
North Reading; Robert Rose 978-
664-2703, after 6 p.m.

Meeting, the Merrimack Valley
Camera Club, free, 7 p.m., Trinitar-
ian Congregational Church, Elm
Street, North Andover; 978-455-
8519, www.mvccameraclub.org.

Forum, the Merrimack Valley Ven-
ture Forum, *Capturing New Re-
venue Streams in Global Market:
What Start-Ups and Emerging Ven-
tures Should Know*, \$10 members,
\$20 non-members, 5-8 p.m.,
UMass Lowell, Wannalancit Mill
Conference Center, first floor, 600
Suffolk St., Lowell; 978-764-2833,
www.mvff.org.

Open house, Middlesex Institute for
Lifelong Education for Seniors,
information about courses, guest
performance by Alice Grove, 1:30-
3:30 p.m., Cafe East, Bedford cam-
pus, Spring Road, Bedford;
Maryann Sullivan 781-280-3663 or
Phyllis Beck 781-280-3617.

Poetry, The Powow River Poets pre-
sent poet Jan Schreiber, 7:30 p.m.,
Newburyport Art Association, 65
Water St., Newburyport;
www.newburyport.org.

Thursday, March 20

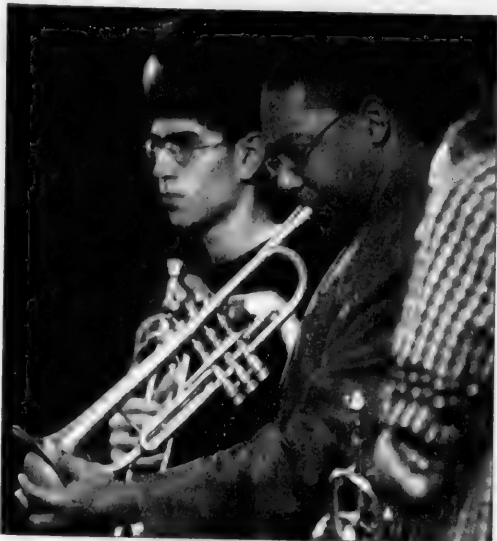
Blood drive, St. Robert's and the



Two Andover students will be
featured in the upcoming Wake-
field Repertory Theatre produc-
tion of *Oliver! Nicole Cahill (left),*
a sixth-grader at Doherty Middle
School, and Lauren LeBlanc, a
third-grader at Bancroft School,
will be orphans and thieves in
the renowned Broadway musi-
cal to be presented March 20-22
at 8 p.m. and March 23 at 2 p.m.
The two Andover girls are part
of a cast of 60. In addition to a
full orchestra. Lauren and
Nicole have been rehearsing
with the theatre troupe since the
beginning of the year. Perfor-
mances will take place at the
Galvin Middle School Auditor-
ium, 525 Main St., Wakefield.
Tickets are \$15 for adults; \$12
for students and seniors. Tick-
ets may be ordered by calling
781-245-1173 or may be pur-
chased in person at the box
office at the auditorium an hour
before each performance. For
further information, e-mail the
WRT at wakfield-
rep@hotmail.com.

American Red Cross are teaming
up to help ensure that a safe and
adequate blood supply is available.
2-8 p.m., Charlie Sheehan Memori-
al Blood Drive, St. Robert's Church
Hall, 198 Haggetts Pond Road.
Continued on page 24

BLOWIN' UP A STORM



Jazz great Wynton Marsalis (middle) plays his trumpet at
Phillips Academy along with the jazz band. Marsalis was at
the school last Thursday, March 6, listening to and helping
the jazz band with their music.

CROSSWORD
SOLUTION

H	A	M	S		S	A	H	I	B		S	A	W	S	
A	L	O	E		A	M	I	N	E		A	L	A	E	
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	O	A	S		R	Y	D	E	R	C	U	P			
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A	L	A	I		C	R	A	I	G		G	A	E	L	
E	D	I	T		P	A	L	A	U		A	C	R	E	
D	A	N	S		S	H	I	N	E		O	P	T	S	

Your Dental Health

by Richard D. Hopgood, D.M.D., F.A.G.D.



GIVING TEETH HIGH PRIORITY

According to a recent survey, more than four Americans in five surveyed (83%) called their teeth a "top priority" when it comes to looking their best. The vast majority of Americans, in fact, consider teeth more important to their looks than hair, eyes and skin. More than two-fifths of those surveyed said they consider the quality of people's smiles absolutely vital to looking their best. Somewhat contradictory, 79% of Americans just "brush to brush", without necessarily enjoying the experience. And, nearly half of those surveyed (48%) were also unaware that even slight gum bleeding from brushing is almost always a sign of gum disease. Good oral hygiene and a pleasing smile go hand in hand with regular brushing and flossing.

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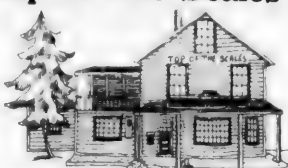
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EVENTS CALENDAR

MARCH 13 THRU 23

Continued from page 23

anyone over the age of 17, weighing 110 pounds or more and feeling in good health may donate blood: 1-800-448-3543, www.newenglandblood.org.

Lecture, MSPCA at Nevins Farm Equine Center presents a lecture, "Trailer Safety 101," by Roger Lauze, \$5 donation, 7-8:30 p.m., MSPCA at Nevins Farm Equine Center, Methuen; 978-687-7453.

Theater, the Wakefield Repertory Theater present *Oliver*, Andover residents performing in the show are Nicole Cahill and Lauren LeBlanc, \$15, \$12 seniors and students, 8 p.m., Galvin Middle School Auditorium, 525 Main St.,

Wakefield; 781-245-1173.

Friday, March 21

Fish Chowder and Chicken Barbeque supper, sponsored by United Presbyterian Church, proceeds benefit the German Home in Lawrence, 4:30-6 p.m., United Presbyterian Church, 96 East St., Lawrence; 978-682-8176.

Live comedy, Greg Rodrigues, Tim Kaelin, open mic, \$12, 9:30 p.m., Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, North Andover; 781-938-8088.

Live music, John Troy, 8 p.m., The Crescent Dragon, 59 Washington St., Haverhill, tickets: 978-372-5441, www.crescentdragon.com.

Oliver, see March 20 entry.

Saturday, March 22

Live music, Jez Lowe, \$15, 8 p.m., tickets at the door from 6:30 p.m., doors open 7:30 p.m., New Moon Coffee House, Jct. Rts. 110 and 125, Universalist Unitarian Church, Haverhill; 978-373-9259, www.newmooncoffeehouse.org, advance tickets available at Andover Bookstore.



Jez Lowe

Live comedy, Paul Nardizzi, Greg Rodrigues, Anne Maneikis, \$12, 9:30 p.m., Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, North Andover; 781-938-8088.

Live music, Jazz at the Hall 2003, sponsored by the First Essex Bank and the Danvers Savings Bank, present the Boston Pops Ensemble, proceeds to benefit the Friends of Memorial Hall Library programs, light refreshments will be served, \$20, tickets can be purchased at the Library or Andover Bookstore, 7:30 p.m., Old Town Hall; 978-623-8400.

Live music, Venus Rising and Down Under, 8 p.m., The Crescent Dragon, 59 Washington St., Haverhill, tickets: 978-372-5441, www.crescentdragon.com.

Live music, *Deutsche Nacht*, and evening of German song and refreshments, \$10 at the door, \$8 in advance, 8 p.m., Kazanjian

Ballroom, St. Vartanantz Armenian Church, 180 Old Westford Road, Chelmsford; 978-441-6926, www.operalowell.org, lowelloperacompany@msn.com.

Live music, Dave Norton, no cover, 7 p.m., Higher Ground Coffee House, 194 Middle St., Lowell; 978-453-4007.

Theater, Theater in the Open presents, *Spring Thaw*, \$25, \$10 under 21, 7-10 p.m., proceeds benefit Theater in the Open and Summer Arts Workshop, Masonic Hall, 31 Green St., Newburyport; 978-465-2572.

Oliver, see March 20 entry.

Sunday, March 23

Live music, Merrimack Valley Suzuki Strings, benefit concert, under the direction of Trudy Larson, Andover residents in the group are: Nick Binder, Emily Scoble, Emily Peterson, Bonnie Domigan, Lina Lucaci-Vashee, Elizabeth Scoble, \$7, \$5 seniors and students, 3 p.m., Trinitarian Congregational Church, 73 Elm St., North Andover; 978-685-7844.

Workshop, American Textile History Museum presents Sally Matson, actress and narrator as *Susan B. Anthony*, free with museum admission, 2 p.m., Dutton Street, Lowell; 978-441-0400, www.athm.org.

Photography exhibit, by photographer and Shiatsu teacher Inna Broude-Epstein, free, 4-6 p.m., Shakti Yoga & Healing Arts Center, 11 School St., Chelmsford; 978-251-1001.

Live music, Alanna Manning, 5-9 p.m., Ipswich Bay Bar and Grill, 24-26 Hammett St., Ipswich.



The University of Maine Singers will give a free concert at the Collins Center on Wednesday, March 19, at 7:30 p.m. The University Singers will perform classical, jazz and contemporary choral music. Marianne Iulicci, a 2001 graduate of Andover High School, will be among the select choir performing with the University of Maine Singers. Concert choir members come from all disciplines across campus, with nearly 50 percent from areas outside music. Under the direction of Dr. Dennis Cox, the Singers tour throughout the Northeast United States for one week each spring, and abroad every four years. In 2000, Singers toured Europe, making stops in Denmark, Germany, Poland, the Czech Republic, and Hungary, concluding with a performance of Hayden's *Lord Nelson Mass* with the Pest Symphony Orchestra. The University Singers also perform regularly with the University of Maine Oratorio Society and the Bangor Symphony Orchestra.

reservations recommended; 978-356-7006.

Oliver, 2 p.m., see March 20 entry.

Ongoing Art Exhibitions

Addison Gallery of American Art.

On Paper: Master Works from the Addison Collection; *Sol LeWitt: Recent Acquisitions*; *Conversations: A Collection in Dialogue*; gallery hours Tuesday - Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun 1-5 p.m., Addison Gallery

of American Art, Phillips Academy; 978-749-4015, www.addisongallery.org

Andover Historical Society, tour the Amos Blanchard House and Barn Museum for a glimpse into life in the early 19th century. Contemporary Andover Artist Series presents: Photographs of vintage cars by Steven B. Leed and Bernard J. Leed II; museum is open for tours Tuesday through Friday 1-4 p.m., \$5 admission, students \$3, 97 Main St.; Elaine C. Zopes 978-475-2236 www.andhist.org.

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN

STREET LAYOUT MEETING

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 82, Section 22, a public hearing will be convened on Monday, March 13, 2003 at 7:30 P.M. in the Third Floor Conference Room, Town Offices, 38 Bartlett Street, to consider laying out the following streets: Andover Country Club Lane, Douglass Lane, Hitchcock Farm Road, Mortimer Drive and Hagerty Ridge. Raymond E. Hender Chairman Andover Board of Selectmen March 13 & 20, 2003

2-10

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9 Special Notices

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53 High Street. 672-3 Immaculate updated in-town Cape. Hdwd fls, fp LR, DR w/built-ins, deck, level lot, newer windows & paint. Garage. Call Arlene Santangelo 978-482-4115.



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7 Walker Rd. #2. 1st ad! 3 bedroom condominium in move-in condition located in desirable complex with tennis courts and pool, super location! Call Janet Meyer Pratt 978-482-4169.



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One of just a few 2 bedroom, 2 bath units at Heritage Green. First floor unit in great condition, parquet floors, updated kitchen, neutral decor, patio, pets allowed. Call Susan Shepard 978-482-4175.



ANDOVER - \$574,900
Center Entrance Col on corner of cul-de-sac location! Walking distance to new schools. 84/2.5 with fp'd FR, attractive eat-in KIT & fresh paint. Call Debbie Hughes 978-482-4113 or Val Roberts 978-482-4182.



ANDOVER - \$569,900
35 Lucerne Drive. Charming oversized 85/2 Cape. Spectacular lot abutting conservation. Hardwood floors, loads of closets, 2 car garage. Walk to town & Doherty School. Call Direct - Joan Johnson 978-482-4118.



ANDOVER - \$995,000
Phillips Academy home on over an acre lot. Custom design KIT w/granite, formal LR & DR, music room, den w/let bar. 5 BRs & 3 custom designed baths. Wood floors, 4 fps - A must see! Call direct - Linda Connolly 978-984-3108 or Silvia Aprans 978-482-4120.



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22 Railroad #204. Spacious 2nd floor unit, sunny & bright, 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, fantastic walk to everything location! Call Janet Meyer Pratt 978-482-4169.



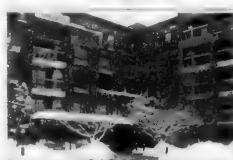
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What a charmer! Mint 5 room home - new kitchen, fireplace living room, dining room, 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, deck, private lot, neighborhood location. Call Joan Ponti 978-482-4171.



BRADFORD - \$383,500
69 Towne Hill Rd. Persimmon Woods Heights. Young contemporary split in Bradford CC location. Former model, impressive cathedral ceilings, feature windows, 8 ms, 4 bdrms, 3 full baths, pristine! Call Ellie Gallagher 978-482-4147.



NORTH ANDOVER - \$154,900
6 Walker Rd. #11. Meadow View top floor corner unit. Nicely set in rear of building. Fully appointed eat-in kitchen, private balcony, storage, pool & tennis. Call Mary Reynolds 978-482-3504.



ANDOVER - \$259,900
Great 2 BR, 2 BA, condo at The Andover. Easy walk to town & train. 2 parking spaces. 1 car garage and 1 outside. Call Arlene Santangelo 978-482-4119.



ANDOVER - \$819,900
Lot 8 Whittemore Terrace (Stirling Woods) New Construction! 10/4/3.5 Col in new subdivision. Hdwd, gourmet KIT, fp'd FR, 1st flr laundry, master suite w/sitting area w/fp, C/a, 3 car gar, & security. Call Arlene Santangelo 978-482-4115.



ANDOVER - \$389,900
37 Lincoln St. Walk to H.S. 3 bedroom Ranch! Updated with Corian bath, newer kitchen & appliances, family room plus 3 season room, brick patio with beautiful grounds & gardens. Call Gretchen Papineau 978-482-4170.



ANDOVER - \$459,900
8+ rooms, 2 baths, all hardwood floors, updated kitchen, 2 fireplaces, neighborhood walking distance to high school! Call Ellie Gallagher 978-482-4147.



NORTH ANDOVER - \$463,900
8 room Colonial, fireplace, hardwood, screened porch. Acre lot with views of Lake Cochewick, room to expand in this neighborhood of higher priced homes. Call Barbara Sullivan 978-482-4176.



ANDOVER - \$92,900
Fabulous views of pool & tennis from this unit @ Colonial Dr. Assigned parking spot closest to front door. Coin operated laundry same building. Dogs under 20 lbs & indoor cats OK. Call Carla Burns 978-482-3507.



ANDOVER - \$379,900
Best buy in town! well maintained 3 BR Ranch on gorgeous lot. Fp'd LR, eat-in KIT, sunroom, basement w/fp, hdwds & attached garage. Call Joan Johnson 978-482-4118.



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NORTH ANDOVER - \$559,900
Chestnut St. near Woodlee. Only 2 left! 3,000 sf, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bath Colonial with granite kitchen, 1st floor study, gas fireplace in family room, 2nd floor laundry, desirable country road. Call Jon Maren 978-984-4161.



ANDOVER - \$639,000
9 Marie Drive. Walk to schools! 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath Colonial, all hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, screened porch, partially finished walkout lower level to pool. Call Jeffrey Queen 978-482-4172.



NORTH ANDOVER - \$679,900
Light, bright and open 9 room Colonial on level acre lot in neighborhood setting. Numerous up-grades, a/c, cherry cabinet island kitchen, luxury master bath and much more! Call Jon Maren 978-482-4161.



ANDOVER - \$469,900
21 Shipman Road. 1st ad! Johnson Acres - one level living on oversized lot. Double-sized LR, hdwds, fp & sliders to backyard. Bright eat-in KIT, DR, office, 3 BR & 2 full baths. Finished fp'd room in lower level. Call Carla Burns 978-482-3507.



ANDOVER - \$195,000
9 Crescent Dr. #9. 1st Ad! Andover Gardens - Immaculate top floor unit with hdwd flrs. Beautifully maintained. Newer carpets, paint & a/c's. Two assigned parking spaces. Low condo fee includes heat. Call Jeanette Belhen 978-482-3109.



NORTH ANDOVER - \$207,900
Chickering Condos! Renovated KIT & bath, new windows. LR w/hdws, basement can be finished. Fenced yard, deck & patio. Low condo fee! Call Silvia Aprans 978-482-4120 and Linda Connolly 978-984-3108.



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140 Gray St. 1st ad! Sparkling young 4-5 bedroom Colonial, cathedral ceiling fireplace family room, master with Jacuzzi bath, finished 3rd floor room, level lot, a/c. Call Ellen Munich 978-482-3501.



ANDOVER - \$719,000
47 Martingale, Hunter's Ridge. Gracious Royal Barry Wills Town House. 1st floor master, 2 fireplaces, hardwood floors, new kitchen, 2 car attached garage, magnificent grounds! Call Sally Factor 978-482-4145.



ANDOVER - \$729,000
18 Sunset Rock Rd. 1st ad! Walk to Pike and PA! Beautiful sprawling 4 bedroom Ranch with 3.5 baths, light & bright interior, move-in condition, sun room, magnificent grounds with pool! Call Terry McNally 978-482-4163.



NORTH ANDOVER - \$214,900
Chickering Condos! Many updates - bath, tile floors, carpet, window, white KIT w/new counter, 500-sf basement, fenced yard, deck, patio & shed. Convenient location! Call Silvia Aprans 978-482-4120 or Linda Connolly 978-984-3108.



NORTH ANDOVER - \$424,900
2-4-6 Union St. 1st Ad! Rare 3 FAM near N. Andover Center. 2x2 BR units & 1x1 BR unit. Excellent condition. Gas heat. Deck. 6 parking spaces. Great investment opportunity! Call Mark Norton 978-482-4165.



NORTH ANDOVER - \$269,900
66 Hewitt Ave. Totally renovated! Great condo alternative w/expansion possibilities. Lovely wooded lot within walking distance to Franklin School. Light & bright w/9 ft. ceilings. Call Terry Goodridge 978-482-4194.



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COUCH & LOVESEAT - 5 years old, moss green, oversized. Asking \$300. Call 978-887-5616

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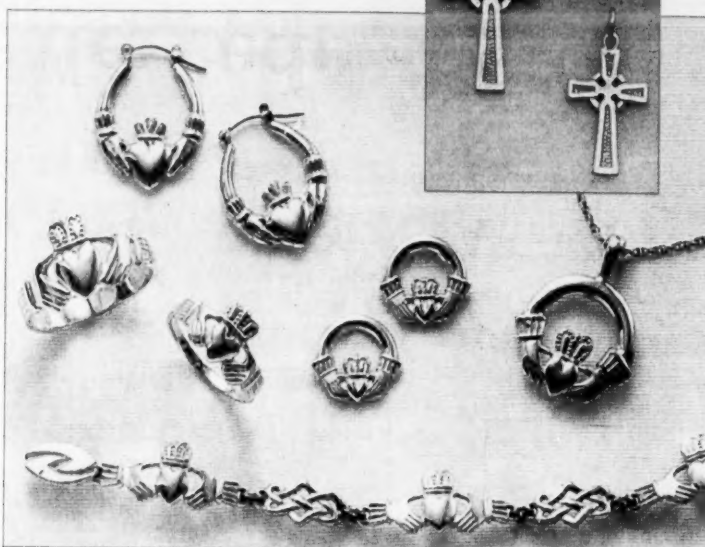
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